

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

28
 NE-M



COLORADO
 Parks and Wildlife
 Department of Natural Resources

Name of Project: Rampart Trail Crew & Patrol VII	Date of Application: 1 Dec 23
--	-------------------------------

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

Total Project Cost: \$93,370 93,170 <i>(round off to the nearest \$1)</i>	Grant Request: \$79,348 79,748 <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: USDA Forest Service, South Platte Ranger District
 Mailing Address: 30403 Kings Valley Dr. Ste 2-115, Conifer, CO 80433
 Telephone: 303-275-5626 Email: marc.grandia@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 *Project Contact* changes.

Name: Marc Grandia Title: Natural Resources Specialist
 Mailing Address: 30403 Kings Valley Dr. Ste 2-115, Conifer, CO 80433
 Telephone: 303-275-5626 Email: marc.grandia@usda.gov
 Cell: 720-320-8732 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 *Project Contact* changes.

Name: Marc Grandia Title: Natural Resources Specialist
 Mailing Address: 30403 Kings Valley Dr. Ste 2-115, Conifer, CO 80433
 Telephone: 303-275-5626 Email: marc.grandia@usda.gov

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

Name: Jennifer Munn Title: Grants Management Specialist
 Mailing Address: 1617 Cole Blvd, Lakewood, CO 80401
 Telephone: 605-515-8812 Email: Jennifer.munn@usda.gov

PROJECT LOCATION	
Nearest Town or City: Sedalia, CO	
County(ies): Douglas	
Forest Road 300, Devils Head Lookout Tower	
Township/Range/Section: Indian Creek Work Center T8S/R69W/S3	
State Senate District #: 4	State Representative District #: 39
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): <u>USFS</u>	
TRAIL SYSTEM INFORMATION (List the number of miles for each type of OHV trail in your area)	
Miles of Singletrack: <u>~70</u>	Miles of 50" or less: <u>~100</u>
Miles of Full-sized: <u>~18</u>	
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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Signs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restoration/Rehabilitation (existing corridor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Corps
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visitor Contacts & Law Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Capital Equipment
	<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 the 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.)
60	
20	Enforcement, Education & Visitor Contacts (e.g., patrols, enforcement, education and visitor contacts, wages, safety contacts, equipment, etc.)
10	Planning & Travel Plan Implementation (e.g., planning, engineering, maps, inventorying, travel management signs & installation, decommission non-system routes, rehabilitation, new construction, wages, monitoring, etc.)
10	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: Rampart Trail Crew & Patrol VII	Project No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Project Sponsor: USDA / USFS South Platte RD	Application Year: 2024-2025
Project Contact: Marc Grandia	Application No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Total Project Cost: \$93,370 93,770	Grant Request: \$79,348 79,748

Project Description:

WHO? The USFS, South Platte Ranger District, Rampart Range OHV Crew will be the responsible party for this project. The three-person crew will focus on trail maintenance, visitor contacts, education, and compliance on the Rampart Range single track trails. We will also be submitting a grant to partner with the Mile High Youth Corps for eight weeks to conduct maintenance on some of the more remote portions of single-track trails.

WHERE? The crew and equipment will be stationed at the Indian Creek Work Center near Sedalia, CO; all work will be within the Pike National Forest, South Platte RD, at the Rampart Range Motorized Recreation Area. The crew's areas of patrol and maintenance consists of trails 770 A-J, 679B, 693, and 683.

WHAT? The single-track trail crew will cover approximately 70 miles of the single-track system on the Rampart Range and all associated trail heads. The trail crew will dedicate 60 percent of their time to maintenance. Crew members not MSF Dirt Bike certified will complete training and utilize skills to negotiate the single-track trail system. We will train one crew member as FPO and all crewmembers will be CPR certified. All the single-track trails have regular tree blow down, drainage issues, and other hazards; this riding crew will be capable of maintaining the trail system and the trail heads that access the single track. The initial phase of work on the single track will be planned with the Statewide OHV crew to clear all single track from hazards that occurred over the winter season. Crucial drainage work will be done at this time and other needed work will be documented to plan future maintenance days and work parties. The crew will be required to wear uniforms that identify themselves as the OHV trail crew; dirt bikes and equipment will display the "Colorado OHV Registration Dollars at Work" logo.

Work projects for the season will be as follows:

1. Hazard and hazard tree removal
2. Corridor clearing
3. Bridge repair, installation, or removal
4. Tread hardening, drainage remediation
5. Trail braiding and user created trail ripping and rehab
6. Restrictor gate installation and repair
7. Volunteer work parties (6) and special events such as poker runs (2)
8. Sign installation, removal, and replacement
9. On/Off loading ramp repair

Feedback from the public and partner volunteer groups will be solicited to determine if completed work meets safe and sustainable riding standards.

WHEN? The single-track trail crew will be onboarded as early as mid-May 2025 and begin trail work as soon as weather conditions permit. If weather and/or the mud-season closure are factors planning, training, and maintenance will be priority. The project will be

complete 30 November 2025. It is the district's intent to hire two permanent crew members that will be on for a minimum of 13 pay periods. Additional pay periods will be funded through district funds.

Program Funding Acknowledgement –The trail crew will display “Colorado Registration Dollars at Work” on both uniforms and machines. Additionally, logos will be displayed at trail heads and kiosks. Educating the public of where their registration dollars go will be ongoing during both maintenance and patrol days.

DEFINITIONS:

MSF-Motorcycle Safety Foundation

FPO-Forest Protection Officer

Budget Form

Project Name: Rampart Trail Crew & Patrol VII

Date Project will be Completed: 30-Nov-25

Project Sponsor: USDS Forest Service, South Platte 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)			\$ 79,748.00
GS-09 0401 Supervision and Vehicle		\$ 12,522.00	\$ 12,522.00
Forest Service Vehicles/Excavator: Fuel/Maintenance		\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
USE OF GRANT FUNDING <small>List uses of grant funding (only) below</small>	TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT		\$ 93,770.00

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-06 0462 Forestry Technician Trail Crew Member (13/13) 13 Pay Periods	\$ 24.08		\$ 25,019.00
GS-05 0462 Forestry Technician Trail Crew Member (13/13) 13 Pay Periods	\$ 21.61		\$ 22,452.00
GS-05 0462 Forestry Technician Trail Crew Member (1039)	\$ 21.61		\$ 22,452.00
Riding Gear; PPE		3	\$ 1,500.00
COHVCO Training x2		2	\$ 1,350.00
<small>For CPW use only: Approximate number of workhours</small>	3,022.13		Category Total \$ 72,773.00

II. Project Materials/Supplies <small>Identify as: Signs, rock, lumber, paint, nails, printing, maps/guides, education materials, etc.</small>			
	Price Per	Quantity	Total
Grass seed for rehab	\$ 275.00	2	\$ 550.00
Concrete	\$ 225.00	1	\$ 225.00
Signs, hardware, bridge decking, trail marker posts	\$ 750.00	1	\$ 750.00
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
			Category Total \$ 1,525.00

III. Equipment <small>Identify as: Trail Dozers, ATV/UTV, motorcycle, chainsaws, winches, field equipment rentals, equipment fuel, repairs, and operations, etc.</small>			
	Price Per	Quantity	Total
ATV and Bike Maintenance	\$ 4,500.00		\$ 4,500.00
Chainsaw Maintenance/Replacement	\$ 350.00		\$ 350.00
			Category Total \$ 4,850.00

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

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

V. Volunteer Support <small>Identify as: <i>For Volunteers Only</i> 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>			
	Price Per	Quantity	Total
Sawyer Certs. RRMCC - 2 Students / Tuition	\$ 100.00	2	\$ 200.00
Volunteer PPE	\$ 200.00		\$ 200.00
Volunteer non-monetary awards	\$ 200.00		\$ 200.00
			Category Total \$ 600.00
			Total \$ 79,748.00

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

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	Rampart Trail Crew & Patrol VII	Project Sponsor	USDA / USFS South Platte 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:

Pike National Forest Land Use Plan Date: 1984

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

Date and title of document:

July 2005 Rampart Range Recreation Area Motorized Roads & Trails Plan

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.

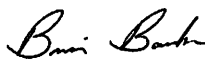
For more information about the NEPA environmental review process, contact:

Jennifer DeWoody, PSICC NEPA Planner Jennifer.dewoody@usda.gov

4. The next planning process that may affect this project is planned for NA.

Brian Banks, District Ranger, South Platte Ranger District

Print or type Land Manager's Name and Title



Digitally signed by BRIAN BANKS
Date: 2023.11.28 14:07:57 -07'00'

Land Manager Signature and Title

Date

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):

The primary objective of this project is to maintain and enhance the single-track trail system throughout the Rampart Range Motorized Recreation Area. Trails 770 A-J, 693, 683, 679B and the new 770 Bailout trail were designed as single-track trails. Currently there are approximately 70 miles of single-track and roughly 100 miles of 50" trails. The challenge is not being able to maintain the single track in addition to the trails covered by the Good OHV Management Crew. The single-track crew was added to the program to solely focus on the single-track trails and has been able to respond to issues regarding resource damage and handle safety concerns. They recognize areas where reroutes need to be considered as well as close off and rehabilitate non-system routes to protect the landscape.

The single-track trails were designed and constructed specifically with the more advanced rider in mind. Crewmembers that are knowledgeable and experienced riders are the key to success of this project. They will provide quality maintenance to the single-track trails including the most remote areas that 50" crews cannot access. Issues and concerns identified early in the season will be able to be addressed, not only to avoid trail closures, but to maintain the trails in a safe and sustainable standard. Sixty percent of the crew's time will be dedicated to keeping these trails maintained.

The three-person trail crew will be responsible for providing a presence, distributing information, educating the public, and enforcing rules and regulations on the single-track system. One crewmember will receive FPO training to issue written warnings or violation notices for offenses such as, but not limited to, failure to provide proof of OHV registration, no spark arrestor, or resource damage. During the crew's first season in 2019, they made 1,525 visitor contacts, and issued 58 written warnings and 47 violation notices. Over the next few years, crewmembers have contacted thousands of riders and have been able to educate them on safe and sustainable riding practices. Reinforcing the importance of OHV registration shows the public where their dollars are being spent.

As one of the premier riding destinations in Colorado, the Rampart Range Motorized Recreation Area provides opportunities to tens of thousands of enthusiasts every year. As the Denver area and front range population increases, more and more outdoor enthusiasts head to the foothills and mountains to recreate. Many head to the Rampart Range to negotiate its single-track trail system. The single-track trail crew is critical to ensuring all users have a safe and enjoyable experience. The trail work completed by this crew will have positive effects on single-track riders. The education provided by the crew will perhaps be taught to the next generation of riders.

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

For over 50 years the Forest Service and the Rampart Range Motorcycle Management Committee (RRMMC) has worked together to maintain, improve, and develop the Rampart Range Motorized Recreation Area into one of the premier riding areas in Colorado. RRMMC's support includes volunteer participation, securing funds for maintenance efforts, utilizing heavy equipment for trail maintenance, hosting work parties, and educating riders on the proper way to enjoy OHV activities. As part of this collaboration, volunteer projects will be dedicated to prioritized maintenance and enhancement projects. This includes the slashing in of closed trails, seeding of ripped trails, sign installation, fence repair and installation, and a variety of other trail maintenance projects. The single-track crew will be instrumental in identifying, planning, and coordinating more labor-intensive volunteer trail projects.

As part of the process to get where we are today, the Forest Service has collected and analyzed data that went into the decision to build these trails and where to locate them. We have gone to extraordinary lengths to involve all interested parties and seek their input. During the scoping phase conducted for the Environmental Assessment, we held four public meetings that were attended by over 500 people. These public meetings were attended by a wide variety of individuals and groups. We have incorporated this input into a plan that considers the needs of all interested parties, including concerns for resource sustainability and habitat protection. This proposed project is a result of that process. While it is impossible to meet the expectations of all interested parties, this project will provide more opportunities for the users, minimize negative impacts to the environment, and provide a basis for sound, comprehensive management of the area.

This proposed project is in accord with the plan approved in 2005. Since that time the Forest Service has partnered with several groups, clubs, and organizations with a shared objective to see this project implemented. In addition to the RRMMC, other partners include:

Douglas County -The County maintains all the roads located within the Rampart Range Motorized Recreation area including those open to unlicensed motor vehicles. They grade the main Rampart Road at least three times a year and to a lesser degree the three major trailheads as well as our higher clearance roads open to unlicensed motor vehicles. In addition, they were heavily involved with the construction of the primary Rampart Trailhead and entrance a couple years ago and completed a new trailhead near the Forest boundary on Dakan road. This facility has proved to be very popular with users in the Castle Rock and Colorado Springs area. It includes a toilet, kiosk, and year-round parking for approximately 25 vehicles. During the spring of 2023, the South Jackson Creek Road saw a significant road wash-out. Douglas County and Forest Service engineers responded quickly and were able to repair the route to allow continued use in the corridor.

MHYC – During the 2023 season, Mile High Youth Corps spearheaded the repair of trail 770F near Turtle Mountain. This section of trail needed significant erosion control to include the construction of a retaining wall approximately 50 feet in length. The hybrid crew was able to complete this project as well as install post and cable to the entrance of the new 770 Bailout Trail. It is our intent to bring on the MHYC trail crew for no less than eight weeks in 2025 and continue to work on sections of 770.

Stay The Trail has been an invaluable resource to the Rampart Range for many years. Their approach to responsible OHV use has cultivated a culture of responsible OHV users across the state; their presence during work parties and poker runs has helped educate riders to be good stewards of public lands. During the 2023 season, they provided us with \$2400 worth of additional sign funding.

\$1525 is being requested to go towards the purchase of additional signs, construction hardware, concrete, and grass seed for rehabilitation areas.

Materials for post and cable projects completed on the Rampart Range are resourced and purchased through the district's recreation funds. The Rampart crew has approximately 150 steel

posts and roughly 3000 feet of cable on hand worth nearly \$11,000. We will purchase more material as necessary through the forest recreation budget.

All personnel associated with this project will display or inform the public that they are funded as a direct result of Colorado OHV registration dollars. In-kind services include overall supervision of the program which involves approximately 30% of the district's Travel Management Supervisor time, engineering support and contracting preparation for the rehabilitation effort. The total project cost is \$93,370.

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

(25 points):

A main benefit of this project is to emphasize resource protection, enhancement, and restoration. By responding timely to weather events and the development of illegal routes, along with regular maintenance, habitat will improve, erosion will be controlled, and over time the visual impacts will fade. The presence provided by the crew will ensure that closed routes remain closed and be restored to their natural condition. The dedicated trail crew will keep the trails clear and maintained.

The project area includes steep slopes, highly erosive soils, sensitive riparian habitats, and populations of federally threatened species such as the Preble's meadow jumping mouse, Pawnee Montane Skipper, and Mexican Spotted owl. Like many trails that have been user created, the sections of trail that are unsustainable have been identified for minor rerouting. These trails are difficult to maintain and have a negative effect on the resource. This damage is primarily the result of trails located too close to riparian or on excessively steep slopes with highly erodible soils. Re-routing trails out of riparian zones and off steep slopes minimizes erosion and keeps sediment on the upper slopes which will substantially improve water quality, improve stream bank stability, and promote enhanced riparian vegetation growth. It is essential that the closed sections of these trails be stabilized and put in a condition that allows for habitat improvement.

Resource Protection – All rerouted trail construction has been approved in accordance with the signed Environmental Assessment and archeological and biological surveys. Based on these results the original layout has been adjusted to avoid any biological concerns or cultural resources. The crew will help ensure that riders are staying on designated routes, replace damaged or obsolete route designation signs, and educate riders on responsible OHV recreation.

Trail braiding is a significant concern throughout the Rampart Range. The crew will identify these problem sites, close off, and rehab them. Native grass seed will be planted once these trails are ripped to bring the area back to a natural state. The trail system is constantly being monitored with resource concerns in mind. Sections of trail that are determined to be unsustainable will be evaluated. Any closed sections will be rehabilitated as to minimize any further impacts. This is also the case with trails that may interfere with critical habitat (riparian areas), in sensitive nesting areas (Goshawk), or slopes that are too steep and are contributing sediment to streams. Eliminating the source of erosion and sediment transports can improve fish habitat miles downstream.

Enhancement – This project will not only enhance the experience for OHV riders but other trail and forest users as well. The Trail crew will clear trail on a regular basis and respond to needed repairs in a timely fashion. They will be able to respond to most changes in the system with short notice.

Restoration – The trail system is constantly monitored and evaluated. Maintenance projects are prioritized based on their resource impacts and safety concerns. This project will ensure that resource impacts are addressed, and restoration actions are planned and executed. If a trail is rerouted, closed sections will be rehabilitated by ripping the old trail, followed by slashing in forest debris, and planting of native grass seeds. We are asking for \$550 to purchase a native blend of grass seed to rehabilitate decommissioned trails or user created routes.

Currently there are no plans for new trail construction or major re-routes. As conditions change on the ground minor re-routes will be considered to protect non-sustainable trails; specifically, where deep cut routes consisting of decomposing granite is causing difficult negotiation of trails and user created bypasses.

Large Equipment Purchases, Maintenance and Disposition:

Large equipment maintenance – Currently, the Rampart OHV crew has one grant purchased mini-excavator. It recently underwent its 500-hour service and operator level maintenance is conducted monthly. The mini excavator is used for projects such as digging hole for post and cable installation and minor grading operations. There is no plan to turn-in or replace the machine as it is in great working condition and used frequently on the Rampart.

We recently purchased three new ATVs and one dirt bike for the Rampart fleet. In doing so, we closed out a grant initiated in 2019. This brought our OHV fleet inventory up to six ATVs, seven dirt bikes, and two UTVs; all are operational and require typical maintenance throughout the season. All machines are operated and maintained by the OHV crew unless the maintenance required is beyond their technical skill.

Fuel for the equipment is on hand at the Indian Creek Work Center and is purchased through district recreation funds.

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

Travel Management:

This project will implement and be in compliance with applicable portions of the decision made in the 2005 Rampart Range Recreation Area Motorized Roads and Trails Plan. This travel management plan is the result of an extensive process that looked at an area over 92,000 acres in size. All of the existing motorized routes were evaluated for sustainability, resource concerns, and forest plan compliance. Other considerations include user satisfaction and reducing conflicts, and how well the network of trails worked in providing connectivity and loops. This plan identified trails that were to be closed and rehabilitated, trails that are targeted for rerouting, and acknowledged the need for new trails for both 50 inch wide ATV's and UTV's, and single track. By incorporating these recommendations new routes were added to improve loop opportunities, reduce conflicts between users, and provide trail access to areas where there was previously only road access open to licensed OHV's only. Route signs will be replaced or repaired, barriers such as post and cable or buck and rail fencing will be installed when required, and the MVUM will be handed out to riders seeking more information. The crew will patrol and monitor the "roadless area" east of Dakan Road and to the west of Perry Park. This habitat has seen illegal routes develop near multiple campsites. The crew will slash in and rehab these routes to protect the area. The patrol crew requested in this grant proposal will help to ensure that the decisions made in this travel plan are maintained and adhered to.

Education:

A principle objective of the three person patrol crew is to make as many contacts as possible and educate users on a variety of topics. As mentioned, in 2019 this crew made approximately 1,525 contacts as documented in the daily diaries. With tens of thousands of visitors each year engaged in a variety of activities it is essential that education play an important role. All trails will be clearly signed and are displayed on the South Platte Ranger District MVUM. MVUMs will be provided at trailhead kiosks and offered as part of every contact. Educating the public on the importance of OHV registration will be a part of the contact conversation and environmental concerns and habitat protection will be discussed. Riders who are not compliant with OHV registration will be asked to register as soon as soon as possible. The message that OHV dollars go back into the trail system will be important for all visitors to understand. Additionally, educating riders on safe practices will be a key point; the use of

Forest Service approved spark arrestors will be at the forefront of the visitor contact conversation. Those not in compliance with the use of spark arrestors will be asked to not ride that machine and potentially receive a violation notice.

Enforcement and Compliance Activities:

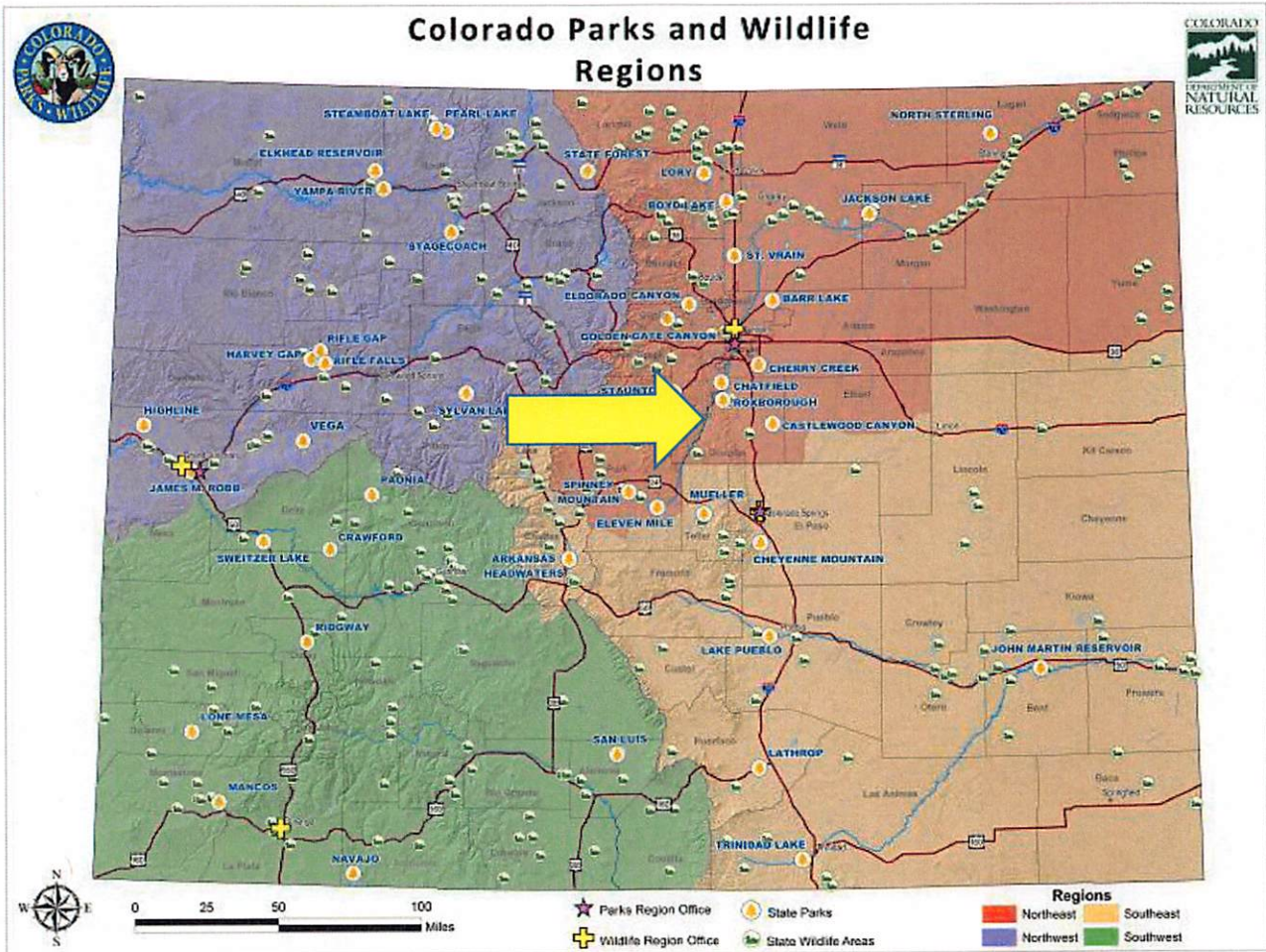
This already busy area is growing significantly in popularity every year. In addition to safe and positive recreation activities, there is a portion of the public that visits the area with nefarious intent. Illegal activities include vandalism, resource damage, graffiti, improper trash disposal, occupancy infringements, irresponsible shooting, drug use, assaults, fire violations, and other violations covered under the Forest Service Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). These activities have a negative effect for those that wish to visit the area for other recreation opportunities. The trail crew will be trained to respond to these incidents either directly or with the assistance of Forest Service or county law enforcement officers to ensure that their own safety as well as the public's is looked after. This crew will inform users of forest rules & regulations and the importance of OHV registration. Forest Protection Officers will write necessary warnings and violation notices. These statistics are tracked for grant administration purposes as well as internally in our Law Enforcement Investigation & Reporting System (LEIRS). Twenty percent of the crew's time will be spent doing visitor contacts, compliance, and enforcement activities.

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

Maps being requested include:

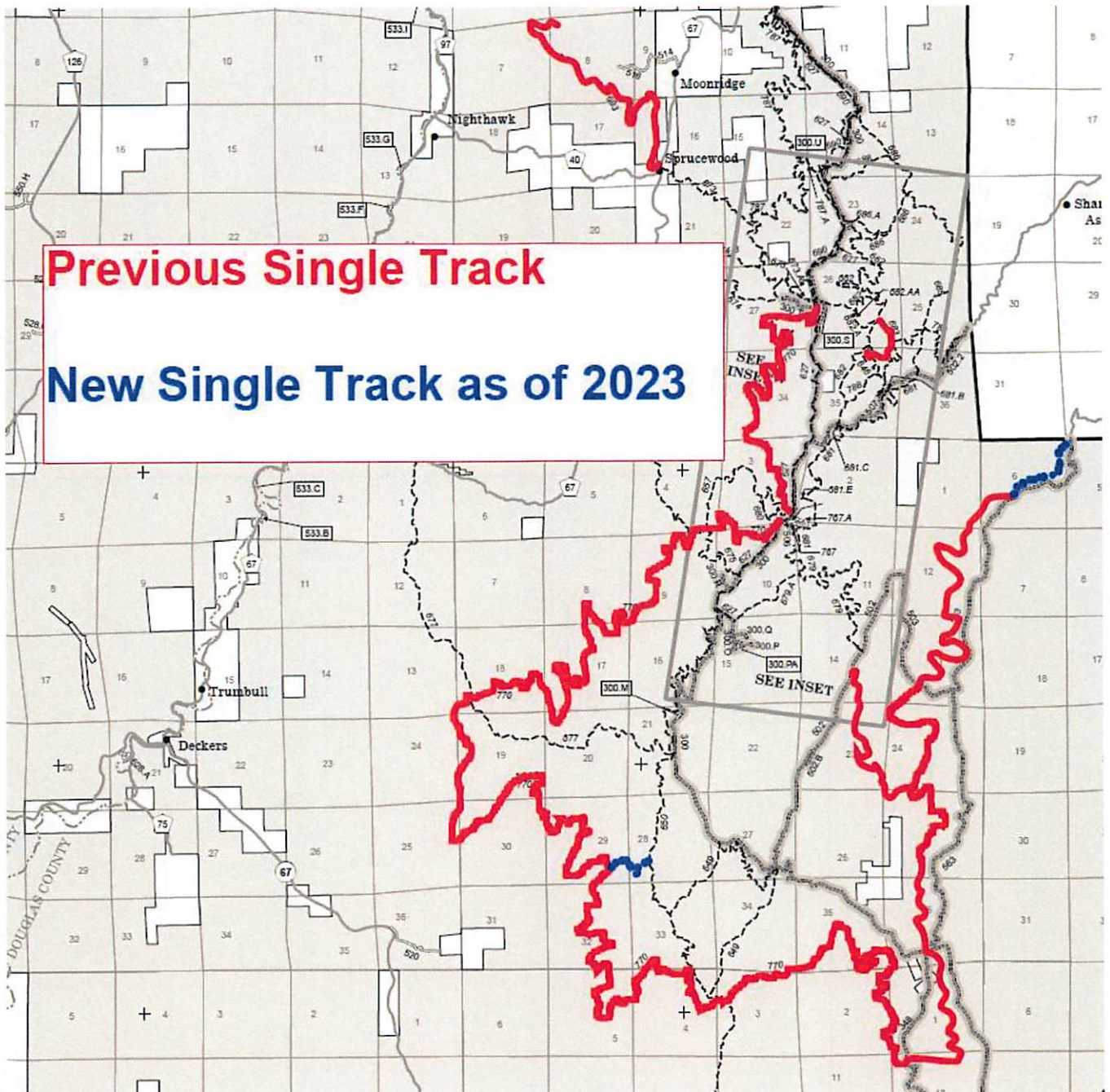
- "General area" (vicinity) map. (E-1)
- A drill-down of that map that shows the *specific* "project vicinity". (E-2a)
- Another drill down map showing specific trails and/or work area (highlighted). (E-2b)

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.



(F) Project Illustration

Photographs, Drawings, Engineering Plans, Diagrams

Results of a work party with the Rampart Range Motorcycle Management Committee

Trail 653 (Roi-Tan) had a much-needed pinch gate installed to prevent access to OHVs other than dirt bikes.



Expired state registration is a typical violation seen on the Rampart Range.
This motorcycle was also missing the spark arrestor.



Deep rutted single track.



(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.

- Wild Connections
- Enduro Ranch
- Performance Cycle of Colorado
- Colorado Mountain Club
- Vickery Motorsports



Wild Connections

FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE PRAIRIES

2168 Pheasant Place
Colorado Springs, CO 80909
info@wildconnections.org
www.wildconnections.org

November 6, 2023

Colorado State Parks,
Attention: Tom Metsa, OHV Program Manager,
13787 S. Hwy 85, Littleton, CO 80125.
RE: South Platte Ranger District 2025 OHV Trail Grant Application

Dear Mr. Mesta,

On behalf of the Board of Wild Connections, I am writing to express our strong support for funding of the South Platte Ranger District's two 2025 OHV Trail Grant Program applications: The North Rampart Good OHV Trail Crew grant and the Rampart Trail Crew and Patrol VII (Single Track).

The work of a Trail Crew is critical to the successful implementation of the District-wide travel plan. Not only do they help maintain and repair trails across the District, but in addition, they provide a much-needed public USFS presence, thereby aiding in the patrol of these areas and the enforcement of travel regulations.

Wild Connections has worked for more than 25 years to identify, protect, and restore wildlands, native species and biological diversity in the Arkansas and South Platte watershed. We have partnered with the Forest Service for years working to protect the natural resources of our National Forest lands. We appreciate the OHV program's past support of OHV trail crews in the Rampart Range and urge the OHV Committee to fully fund the South Platte Ranger District's 2025 grant applications to help ensure a safe and enjoyable motorized recreation program, while at the same time protecting wild areas from the impacts of motorized recreation, both on and off designated trails.

Thank you for your consideration.

James E. Lockhart
President, Wild Connections

Colorado State Parks
ATTN: Mr. Tom Metsa
OHV Program Manager
13787 So. Highway 85
Littleton, CO 80125

Dear Mr. Metsa,

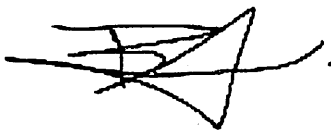
I am writing this letter in support of the South Platte Ranger District's OHV Trail Grant Program Applications: "North Rampart Good OHV Trail Crew" and "Rampart Trail Crew and Patrol VII." These grants will allow the South Platte Ranger District to properly maintain over 300 miles in the Rampart Range Motorized Recreation Area.

In having a dedicated OHV Program Manager and crew members will help ensure that priorities are clearly outlined and maintained such that goals are met effectively. This is a much needed approach as the use at Rampart continues to increase with the population and popularity of enduro and trail riding. Historically the South Platte Ranger District has done a remarkable job utilizing grant funds.

Additionally, management of OHV dollars will be maximized through coordination with the Youth Corps for reconstruction and drainage management on single-track trails. This year the Youth Corps did an excellent job restoring and rejuvenating well travelled sections of single track. The damages to the trail had made it quite unpleasant to ride. Yet, it was a premier trail of the area. The work put the trail back into excellent condition and has clearly made it more enjoyable and reduced off trail excursions.

I appreciate the OHV programs past support of this crew and encourage the Colorado State Parks OHV Trail Grant Program to award and fund.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Brett Johnson', written over a horizontal line.

Brett Johnson, Owner

Mr. Tom Metsa
Colorado State Parks
OHV Program Manager
13787 So. Highway 85
Littleton, CO 80125

Dear Mr. Metsa,

I am writing this letter in support of the South Platte Ranger District OHV Trail Grant Program Applications; "The North Rampart Good OHV Trail Crew" and "Rapart Trail Crew and Patrol VII". The Good OHV Grant Crew will maintain and patrol 50-inch trails open to all rider and the Single-Track crew will maintain and patrol trails only open to dirt bikes. Hiring crewmember depends on these grants. The South Platte Ranger District has performed this type of service for years and have demonstrated that they are more than capable of completing these types of projects based on decades of involvement with the OHV Trail Grant program.

I appreciate the OHV Programs past support of the South Platte Ranger District and encourage the Colorado State Parks OHV Trail Grant Program to award and fund these grants.

Sincerely,

Don Waddill

President

Performance Cycle of Colorado



November 13, 2023

Colorado State Parks
Attention: Tom Metsa, OHV Program Manager
13787 S. Hwy 85
Littleton, CO 80125

RE: Rampart Trail Crew and Patrol VII (Single Track) – Grant Application 2025

Dear Mr. Metsa,

I am writing this letter in support of the South Platte Ranger District's OHV Trail Grant Program Application: "Rampart Trail Crew and Patrol VII." This grant will allow the South Platte Ranger District to properly maintain the Rampart Range Motorized Recreation Area's single-track trails while continuing their reputation as professional trail ambassadors.

The South Platte Ranger District in cooperation with the RRMCMC and other organizations have spent years constructing some of the region's best single-track trails. This crew will enhance the experience for dirt bikers while protecting the integrity of the trails and natural resources.

Another critical component of this grant is the education and enforcement aspect. It's in everyone's interest that riders know the best trail practices as this leads to a higher level of safety for the trail users. Being located on site to the trail system this crew is in perfect position to efficiently respond to any issues involving trails as well as be available to help all visitors.

Grant funding from CPW will allow the hiring of up to eight crewmembers, including an OHV Program Manager for the Rampart Range Recreation Area. Additionally, the crew will contract with Mile High Youth Corps to conduct drainage work and trail reconstruction. With increases in use and popularity, this crew will provide essential resources to one of the premier dirt bike riding destinations in the state.

We are pleased with the South Platte Ranger District's on-going commitment to responsible management of OHV use and support their proposal to further this work. I appreciate the OHV programs' past support of this crew and encourage the Colorado State Parks OHV Trail Grant Program to award and fund this crew fund this crew for a seventh year. Feel free to contact me with any questions about this letter and thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brian Bergeler
Stewardship Manager
Colorado Mountain Club
brian@cmc.org
256-457-8099

Founded in 1912, the Colorado Mountain Club (CMC) is one of the state's leading organizations dedicated to education, conservation and responsible outdoor recreation.



Vickery Motorsports, Inc.

2231 SOUTH PARKER ROAD • DENVER, COLORADO 80231-3482
303-755-4387 ALL COLORADO TOLL FREE 1-800-332-3619



YAMAHA



POLARIS

ski-doo.

Mr. Tom Metsa
Colorado State Parks
OHV Program Manager
13787 So. hwy. 85
Littleton. CO 80125

Dear Mr. Metsa,

I am writing this letter in support for the South Platte Ranger District OHV Trails Grant program for 2025.

The South Platte Ranger District is applying for 2 grants: The North Rampart Good Trail Crew grant and the Rampart Trail Crew and Patrol VII (Single Track). The Good OHV Grant Crew will maintain, and patrol 50-inch trails open to all riders and the Single-Track crew will maintain and patrol trails open only to dirt bikes. Hiring our OHV crewmembers positions including an OHV Program Manager and up to eight crewmembers will depend on grants awarded.

we completely support the use of the OHV funds for these efforts as that is the reason for the OHV grant program.

as a business many of our customers use and enjoy the recreation opportunities in the South Platte District in the Pike national Forest
i also personally enjoy the recreation uses there.

Sincerely

Bill Vickery
Vickery Motorsports
(303) 755-4387
2231 s. Parker Road. Denver Colorado 80231

(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
- Anticipated work the crew will be focused on (e.g., clearing corridor, building drainage systems, tread repair, turnpike repair, etc.)
- Planned location/names of the trails the crew will work on
- Time of year you anticipate the work will be done
- Planned volunteer workdays/events
- Collaboration efforts with OHV user groups / partners (involvement with potential projects)
- Describe any issues encountered during the 2023 season and your plan to overcome them

2024 Rampart Trail Crew & Patrol VI Work Plan

Goals

1. Patrol and maintain 100 percent of all single track trails.
2. Increase Forest Protection Officer enforcement of applicable regulations.
3. Maintain OHV fleet 100 percent operational.
4. Eliminate trail braiding and non-system routes.
5. Increase presence near the "roadless area" of Dakan Road.

Anticipated work

1. Hazards and hazard tree removal
2. Bridge repair, installation, removal
3. Tread hardening, drainage remediation
4. Fence repair and installation
5. Illegal route ripping and rehab
6. Sign installation, removal, replacement
7. Loading ramp repair

Location/Names of trails

TBD. Trail conditions change over the winter season.

Time of Year

We anticipate bringing the crew on by mid-May and be completed by the end of November.

Volunteer workdays and events

We will coordinate six work party days with the RRMMC on various trail improvement projects. There will also be two organized permitted "Poker Runs".

Collaboration efforts

We plan on partnering with the Colorado Mountain Club, RRMMC, and the MHYC to rip and rehab portions of the illegal trail system in the "roadless area". These illegal trails extend from Dakan Road to Perry Park. Evidence of dirt bike travel is as recent as November 2023.

2023 Issues encountered

The 2023 season started during the off-season when all four of our permanent seasonal crewmembers resigned their positions. Each stated that pay was the overarching reason for leaving the agency, along with seasonal work. We were only able to hire one additional seasonal employee for entire season and had one former FS employee hired on through the ACES program. We hope to hire a permanent OHV Program Manager at the GS-7/9 level and replace the four permanent season 13/13 crewmembers with 18/8 staff at the GS-5/6/7 level. With longer tours of duty and higher pay grades, we hope to hire and retain quality employees.

Vehicle maintenance was an ongoing issue. This is always a problem; however, we identified machine maintenance problems that apparently had not been addressed for numerous seasons. One UTV went in for repair in June and was not completed until November. The repair shop stated that there were supply chain issues and lack of certification with their mechanics. We plan to hire one intermittent maintenance employee who will be able to conduct machine repairs throughout the season. This person would be able to come to the work center as needed to perform necessary repairs.