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

Telephone: 719-553-1432





Email: sara.wolf@usda.gov

Name of Project: OHV Grand Lake Trail	Date of Application: 11/13/23					
(Please limit the project name	e to 5 words or less	(S)				
Total Project Cost: \$ 120,000	t Request: \$ 120,000					
(round off to the nearest \$1)	int Requested (round off to the nearest \$1) must match the Project Budget Form.					
PROJECT SPONSOR (Name and Addre	ss for entity legal	Ily responsible for project)				
Organization Name: USDA Forest Service	e, Arapaho Nat	tional Forest, Sulphur Ranger District				
Mailing Address: 9 Ten Mile Drive/PO Bo	ox 10 Granby, C	CO 80446				
Telephone: (970) 887-4146		Email: andrew.mcelwee@usda.gov				
OFFICIAL USE ONLY – UEI # (IF REQU https://sam.gov/content/duns-uei	IRED):					
		onsibility for the managing the project, ensuring the d. Please notify us if <i>Project Contact</i> changes.				
Name: Andrew McElwee/USDA FS	Name: Andrew McElwee/USDA FS Title: Recreation Program Manager					
Mailing Address: 9 Ten Mile Drive/PO Bo	x 10 Granby, C	O 80446				
Telephone: (970) 887-4146	Email: andre	ew.mcelwee@usda.gov				
en e	Is this the primary contact for this grant: YES X NO					
PROJECT CLOSE-OUT CONTACT Thi		ensible for submitting receipts for project spending and ase notify us if <i>Project Contact</i> changes.				
Name: Andrew McElwee/USDA FS	Title: Recreation Program Manager					
Mailing Address: 9 Ten Mile Drive/PO Bo	x 10 Granby, C	O 80446				
Telephone: (970) 887-4146	Email: andrev	w.mcelwee@usda.gov				
GRANTS & AGREEMENTS SPECIALIS	T (USFS only)) or BUDGET CONTACT (BLM only)				
Name: Sara Wolf		Title: Grants Management Specialist				
Mailing Address: 1617 Cole Blvd. Lakewo	ood, CO 80401	The second of th				



PROJECT LO	CATION	M-W	N				
	or City: Granby						
County(ies): Grand Provide a point of reference for mapping purposes (i.e. a google searchable landscape feature):							
Stillwater OHV Trail System							
Township/Range/Section: T 3N, R 76W, Sec 15 State Senate District #: 8 State Representative District #: 56							
LAND OWNER		建筑型 () 有事 [[5]	Otato Hopros				
2. The trail corri Right-of-V question is con Service. Proof	trolled and manag	Fee Simple equisition Ownersh ed as part of the North the Create in the Create International Interna	ip to be obtaine National Forest eative Act estal	ed Other (explain): _ The land in the System by the United States Forest blishing the National Forest system,			
TRAIL SYSTE	M INFORMATIO	(List the number	of miles for each	ch type of OHV trail in your area)			
Miles of Single	etrack:27	Miles of 50" or I	ess: <u>34</u>	Miles of Full-sized:154			
TRAIL USER	INFORMATION (F	Please check all the	at apply to the	work planned for this project)			
	Vehicle	Side x Side	EUW HELL BY				
Motorcyclin			TO A VIEW LAND RIVER	Accessible Access			
PROJECT INF	FORMATION (Plea Include de	ase check all activitable tailed information for					
⊠ Trail Mainte	nance	.408 00 pmc	⊠ Travel Pla	n Implementation			
*New Trail Construction miles / ft (Approved through Travel Mgt Decision)			Resource Protection & Improvement				
★Major Re-Route miles / ft. closed			⊠ Signs				
(that will require new or additional environmental approvals) miles / ft. closed miles / ft. added			☐ Youth Corps				
⊠ Restoration							
* 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 40		nce (e.g., erosion cont	trols, water bars an	nd culverts, trail clearing and brushing, trail rs, trailhead improvements and maintenance,			
25	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.)							
18				eous (e.g., equipment maintenance and repair, ment, program coordination, etc.)			

SCOPE OF WORK - Project Description:				
Project Name: Grand Lake Trail Crew	Project No.: (to be completed by CPW)			
Project Sponsor: USDA, Arapaho National Forest, Sulphur Ranger District	Application Year: 2024-2025			
Project Contact: Andrew McElwee	Application No.: (to be completed by CPW)			
Total Project Cost: \$120,000	Grant Request: \$120,000			

Project Description: To develop, maintain and improve OHV trails, trailheads, parking and support facilities; reconstruct OHV trails and related facilities; produce, install and maintain signage for OHV trails and support facilities; develop, deliver and provide education and rider ethics training to the OHV riding community; maintain, supply and operate facilities owned by the USDA Forest Service and BLM that are used by OHV recreationalists; implement approved federal Travel Management Plans; and provide a field presence for visitor contacts, compliance and enforcement. To support and promote the Colorado state Parks OHV registration program through public contacts and education and participate at the Colorado OHV workshops when scheduling accommodates.

APPLICATION SCOPE OF WORK:

The Grand Lake Trail Crew is a 4-person trail crew stationed on the Sulphur Ranger District (SRD) of the Arapaho National Forest located in Grand County Colorado. The SRD is on the west side of the Continental Divide approximately 2 hours west of the Denver metropolitan area. The district spans from the summit of Berthoud Pass on the southeast boundary, follows the summit of the Continental Divide north to the boundary with Rocky Mountain National Park which comprises the northeast boundary, then extends west to the summit of Parkview Mountain which marks the northwest boundary, and then extends south to the summit of Ute Pass which comprises the southwest boundary. The district has approximately 80 miles of multiple use motorized trail, and over 350 miles of multiple use roads, available for motorized enthusiasts. The crew's primary area of emphasis is the Grand Lake Trail System which is located on the north end of the district just west of US Highway #34 near the town of Grand Lake approximately 90 miles west of Denver. The trail system lies within a large area commonly known as "Stillwater Pass", which extends from US Highway #34 west to Colorado Highway #125, and North of US Highway #40 to the summit of Willow Creek Divide and east to the Rocky Mountain National Park boundary. The area encompasses approximately 150,000 acres of mountainous terrain consisting of burned lodgepole pine and spruce and fir forests. The area ranges in elevation from 8,500 feet at the Idleglen staging area to over 12,000 feet on the summit of Parkview Mountain. The Grand Lake Trail System contains approximately 190 miles of OHV open routes winding through several tributary drainages of the Colorado River, offering spectacular scenic alpine vistas. The system when fully operational consists of 46 miles of multiple-use motorized trails including 11.4 miles of motorized single-track (currently re-constructing 9 additional single track miles that was finished 3 weeks before the East Troublesome Fire wiped it out) as well as 154 miles of OHV open roads.

The Grand Lake Trail crew is responsible for; maintenance, construction and reconstruction of trails, trail clearing, construction and maintenance of trailhead facilities, installation of kiosks and bulletin boards for user education, installation of trail and travel management signs to inform, direct, and regulate trail users, construction of buck-n-rail fence for travel management purposes to regulate users and to prevent resource damage, patrolling and cleaning OHV camping areas, extinguishing unattended campfires, distribution of trail maps and education materials, and field presence during peak use times (Weekends, Holidays, Hunting Seasons, Special Events, etc..) to provide information, education, assistance, and compliance for the State OHV registration program, as well as, enforcement of Forest Service rules and regulations.

The large majority of grant funds (over 80%) will be used to fund salary for personnel assigned to the Grand Lake Trail Crew. Funds will also be used to train and certify members of the crew in chainsaw operations, motorcycle and ATV operations, level 2 law enforcement, CPR and 1st Aid, and other required skills as necessary. Remaining funds will be used to purchase, lease, rent, and maintain equipment and/or materials and supplies to support the crew and associated

projects. This includes funding vehicles and fuel, utility trailers, motorcycles and ATV's, and other tools, equipment, and personal protective gear.

Funds requested in this grant are to be utilized during the field season of 2025 beginning in early April and continuing into late November 2025. Nominal reserve funds will be held over to cover permanent employee benefits during furlough months until June of 2026. (Timeline = April 2025- June 2026).

The Grand Lake Trail System (GLTS) has become one of the most popular and intensely used motorized trail systems in the State of Colorado. Because the trail system is immediately adjacent to Rocky Mountain National Park, The Arapaho National Recreation Area (surrounding Lake Granby), The Bowen Gulch Protection Area, The Never Summer Wilderness, and the town of Grand Lake, and due to its close proximity to the Front Range metropolitan area (less than a 2-hour drive), this trail system attracts an incredible amount of OHV enthusiasts annually. Based on road counter tallies and use surveys, it is estimated that the area is visited by approximately 20,000 OHV enthusiasts annually. The trail damage and subsequent maintenance requirements of such an intensely used trail system are substantial. Grant Funding for the Grand Lake Trail Crew through the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Good OHV Management Program is critical for maintenance of the (GLTS) and our ability to continue to provide motorized recreation opportunities in this area. The (GLTS) spans a very unique and diverse ecological area with motorized trails circumventing many very unique places. These unique areas are a significant part of what attracts users to this trail system. Congressionally designated areas like the Never Summer Wilderness, Bowen Gulch Protection Area, Arapaho National Recreation Area, and Rocky Mountain National Park have stringent management prescriptions that are clearly defined in their respective legislations. As land managers, it is paramount that we ensure the protection of these special areas and meet the intent of the defining legislation. It is extremely challenging to provide OHV riding opportunities in close proximity to such ecologically sensitive areas. The Grand Lake Trail Crew is what sustains our ability to continue to provide OHV opportunities on the (GLTS) and throughout the adjacent area.

*Unfortunately, because of the record wildfires Colorado and the Grand Lake/Stillwater area experienced during the 2020 fall season the Grand Lake Trail System was completely decimated by the East Troublesome Fire. Signage, kiosks, OHV routes, sensitive area protective fencing and nearly every trail structure (bridges, turnpikes etc.) were consumed by the East Troublesome Fire. The intention of the Sulphur Ranger District is to continue reconstruction and reestablishment of the Grand Lake Trail System and continue to provide this premier OHV opportunity in its entirety.

*Trails in the Williams Fork/Keyser Creek OHV trail system, also managed by the GLTC, were severely impacted by the Williams Fork Fire during the 2020 fire season and substantial rehabilitation of the trails and trail infrastructure in that area will be part of the work plans for the GLTC for the foreseeable future.

The GLTC acknowledges CPW by handing out Colorado OHV dollars at work stickers to the public in the field and at our front desk. Sulphur Ranger District OHV Staff has the Dollars at Work logo on crew jerseys and we also put the stickers on trail carsonites/signage and kiosks across the district, as well as on our fleet of trail tractors, equipment, ATV'S and motorcycles.

Budget Form

Project Name: Grand Lake Trail Crew OHV Good Management

Date Project will be Completed: 4/30/2026

Project Sponsor: Arapaho National Forest Service Sulphur R.D.

***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 List all sources and amounts of project funding in this section (insert additional lines if needed)	Pour Pour I	CASH	In-Kind (Non-Cash) Contributions		TOTAL
OHV Grant Funding (amount of requested OHV grant funds only)					\$120,000
Other Funding Sources	\$		\$ -	\$	-
List other sources of project funding here and for what the funding will be used. (insert more lines if needed)	\$	-	\$ -	\$	
Example: To provide additional Salary, Materials, and/or Equipment	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-
	\$	-	\$ -	\$	
USE OF GRANT FUNDING	TC	TAL PROJECT	AMOUNT	\$ 1	20,000.00

\$ \$	Per Hr 43.75	Hrs/ week	# of weeks		
\$			# of weeks	_	
\$	43.75		TO WOOKS	Tot	al Cost
+-		40	2	\$	3,500.00
\$	30.00	40	24	\$	28,800.00
IΨ	22.43	40			19,738.40
\$	21.63	40	20	\$	17,304.00
\$	21.63	40	20	\$	17,304.00
\$	-			\$	810.00
s	:-			s	1,730.00
_				-	519.20
				_	600.00
				_	600.00
					500.00
					3,500.00
				-	2,500.00
+				-	2,000.00
\$	-				\$5,000
\$				\$	2,000.00
s	2,386.41		Category Total	\$	104,405.60
Price	e Per	Quantity	Total		
\$	-		\$ -		\$4,182.40
	-			\$	
	_				
_	_			_	-
\$			\$ -	\$	-
			Category Total		\$4,182.40
\$	-			\$	1,500.00
\$	-			\$	1,500.00
\$	92			\$	1,160.00
\$	-		Category Total	\$	300.00 4,460.00
	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	\$ 21.63 \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ -	\$ 21.63 40 \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ -	\$ 21.63	\$ 21.63

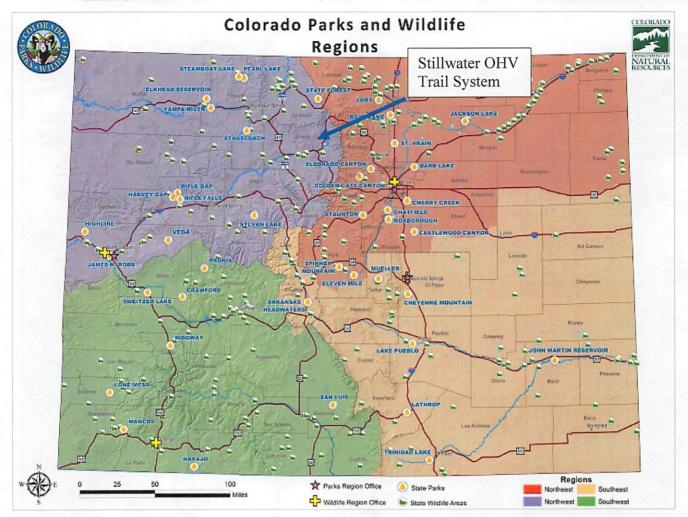
III.A. FLEET Equipment					
Identify as: Crew Fleet Vehicles/Trucks monthly FOR & USE, Fleet Equipment monthly USE.				_	
Fleet F.O.R. truck # 2756 \$496.00 x12 months	\$	-	\$ -	\$	5,952.00
	\$	-			
			Category Total	- 18	\$5,952.00
IV. Contracted Services Identify as: Youth Corps, NEPA, planning, engineering, construction contractor/subcontractor costs					
Pump Idleglen Vault Toilets	\$			\$	1,000.00
Fullip lulegien vault Tollets	\$			\$	1,000.00
	Ψ			Ψ	-
	\$			\$	_
	\$			\$	
	\$		Category Total	\$	
V. 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.	\$		Category Total		1,000.00
Identify as: For Volunteers Only Safety education, safety gear (gloves/goggles), outfitting, per diem (meals or	\$	-	Category Total		
Identify as: For Volunteers Only Safety education, safety gear (gloves/goggles), outfitting, per diem (meals or		-	Category Total	\$	1,000.00
Identify as: For Volunteers Only Safety education, safety gear (gloves/goggles), outfitting, per diem (meals or	\$		Category Total	\$	1,000.00
Identify as: For Volunteers Only Safety education, safety gear (gloves/goggles), outfitting, per diem (meals or	\$	-	Category Total Category Total	\$ \$ \$	1,000.00 - -

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.

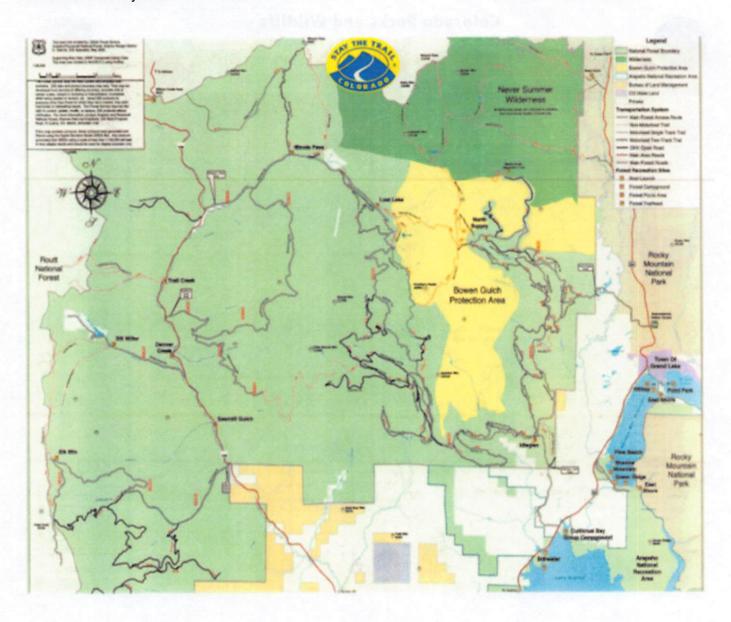
Project Name	Grand Lake Trail Crew	Project Sponsor	Arapaho and Roosevelt Nation Forest, Sulphur Ranger Distric					
As the official responsible for management of the land on which the project will be accomplished, I agree to the following:								
2. The project is appropriate	s described in this applicatio located on federal public lar ment Plan, BLM Resource A	nds and is in con	formance with th					
ARNFPNG 19	97 Land and Resource Mana	gement Plan	Date:	11/19/1997				
3. A decision ha	s been issued as part of the	NEPA environm	ental review pro	cess.				
	document: is for Trail Maintenance of th rail System has been analyzee							
National Fores Parcka, and St "Manage the a use". This proj	sion of the Land and Resource ts and Pawnee National Grase illwater Geographic areas where rea's Off Highway Vehicle and ect is consistent with the dire changes to the current manage	sland. The project nere specific direct nd Mountain Bike ection as outlined	ct is within the L ction is given in t c trail system for in the Forest pla	ittle Gravel, he Forest Plan to heavy summer n and we do not				
	ate reason and the estimated tributed until any required N							
For more inform	ation contact:							
Andrew McElw	vee, Recreation Program Manag	ger, USDA Forest	Service, Arapaho	NF, Sulphur RD				
970-887-4146	andrew.mcelwee@usda.gov							
4. The next plan	ning process that may affect	t this project is pl	anned for. N/A					
Eric Freels, Dis	trict Ranger, Arapaho National	Forest, Sulphur R	anger District					
Print or type Lar	nd Manager's Name and Title EELS Digitally signed by ERIC FRI Date: 2023.11.09 15:40:43 -07'00'	e EELS						
Land Manager S	Signature and Title			Date				

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.

Stillwater OHV System



GRAND LAKE TRAIL CREW GOALS FOR THE 2024 FIELD SEASON

- Assessment and clearing of OHV trails on the Sulphur RD, converting the systems from winter
 use to summer use, constructing barriers to protect sensitive areas, rebuilding trail
 bridges/turnpikes and implementing extensive erosion control and hazard tree mitigation
 measures because of the East Troublesome and Williams Fork Fires.
- Provide consistent weekend, holiday, and heavy use area patrols within the Grand Lake Trail
 System to educate and inform users of pertinent rules and regulations while protecting the
 resource and continue to promote the State OHV registration program.
- Work to reclaim and re-establish the Grand Lake Trail system to a high standard while continuing to promote and sustain quality motorized trails across the Sulphur RD.
- Continue to improve water quality and wildlife habitat on public lands by identifying and
 decommissioning user created routes and making public contacts to encourage users to stay
 on MVUM system routes. Also, by implementing erosion control projects to limit uncontrolled
 runoff and resource damage in the wake of the severe 2020 fires.
- Continue to utilize trail dozer and mini-excavator to construct drainage features and perform trail reconstruction on segments of OHV trails impacted by the intense fire activity in 2020.
 Continue to develop safe/efficient trail machine operators in the sustainable construction of OHV trails and drainage features.
- Continue to repair and rehabilitate OHV trails and facilities affected by wildfires. Implement
 extensive erosion control strategies and techniques related to motorized trails and resource
 protection in wildfire affected areas.

Good OHV Management Program Grand Lake Trail Crew 2024 Work Plan

Work Plan:

The scope of work for 2024 will include; tasks including but not limited to; trail clearing, construction of structures i.e. bridges and turnpikes, construction and cleaning of drainage structures, new trail construction, trail reconstruction, trail rerouting, hazard tree removal, buck and rail construction, sign installation and associated travel management, supervision of volunteers and youth corps crews on trail related projects and events, as well as enforcement of state and federal regulations throughout the Grand Lake Trail system in the Stillwater area. The area encompasses approximately 150,000 acres of mountainous terrain consisting of mixed lodgepole pine and spruce and fir forests. The area ranges in elevation from 8,500 feet at the Idleglen staging area to over 12,000 feet on the summit of Parkview Mountain. The Grand Lake Trail System contains approximately 190 miles of OHV open routes winding through beautiful mountain forests offering spectacular scenic alpine vistas. The system consists of 46 miles of multiple use motorized trails including 20.4 miles of motorized single-track (9 miles of new trail currently being rehabilitated after the E.T.F.) as well as 154 miles of OHV open roads. The crew also has additional responsibility for maintenance of 34 miles of motorized trails and 200 miles of OHV open roads in other locations across the district.

Overview for the 2024 Season:

The Grand Lake Trail Crew will spend the majority of their time (40%) performing their primary function of trail maintenance (e.g. erosion controls, water bars and culverts, trail clearing and brushing, trail hardening, trail construction, reconstruction, and trail tread repairs, trail rerouting and decommissioning, bridge and turnpike construction and repairs etc).

The crew will spend approximately (17%) of their time performing travel management work (including Planning & Travel Plan Implementation). Installing TM and directional signs, decommissioning user created routes, and distributing MVUM maps.

The crew will spend approximately (25%) of their time making public contacts, educating and informing the public for resource protection and law enforcement in support of the State OHV sound and registration programs. Additionally, education of forest visitors regarding the mountain beetle epidemic and the dangers of falling dead trees as well as wildfire potential and danger levels are major priorities.

The crew will spend the remaining (18%) of their time maintaining equipment/materials, procuring/constructing and installing materials/signs in support of their program. Additionally, some time will be utilized performing administrative tasks in support of the program.

Objectives:

 Continued implementation of projects associated with the re-establishment of the Grand Lake Trail System and perform maintenance on the remainder of Sulphur's OHV routes (roads, two track and single-track trails) in the Grand Lake Trail system as well as other motorized trails on the district.

- 2. Construct and maintain 200 drainage structures (water bars/grade dips) on OHV routes on the Sulphur Ranger District.
- 3. Perform heavy trail maintenance and repair on the core Stillwater OHV Area and the Illinois Pass trail. Utilize trail dozer and mini excavator on district to perform drainage feature maintenance and construction, tread repair and rerouting. Continually develop safe, skilled operators while emphasizing proper implementation of sustainably built trail and features.
- 4. Make public contacts on weekends, holidays and peak use periods to educate users about the State Off-Highway Vehicle Registration program, The "Stay the Trail" educational program, spark arrestor requirements, state sound testing requirements and any other violations under the code of federal regulations.
- 5. Remove hazard trees from roads, trails and campgrounds in the Stillwater Pass area to increase public safety. Wildfire affected areas in Williams Fork and Stillwater Pass will be a major focus of this work.
- **6.** Provide support and technical expertise to the Colorado Off-Highway Vehicle Workshop by attending the event and supporting presentations and trainings.
- 7. Support National Public Lands Day by providing technical expertise and supporting the trail projects with preparatory work prior to the event, and assistance the day of the event.
- 8. Utilize trail dozer and mini excavator to implement erosion control measures and reestablish OHV routes lost as a result of the fires in 2020. Develop safe, efficient trail machine operators in the sustainable design and construction of trails and drainage features.

Challenges:

As a result of the mountain pine beetle epidemic that has occurred over the past two decades, we have several ongoing challenges. As the decadent stands of lodgepole pine trees have been obliterated by the beetle epidemic and the East Troublesome Fire, there has been a significant increase in hazard trees falling across roads and trails and in dispersed camping areas throughout our district. It is our goal to ensure that all areas of the National Forest are safe for public use and the workload associated with the East Troublesome and Williams Fork Fires is significant. Additionally, with heavy spring runoff and summer thunderstorms trail damage has been significant in these fire affected areas. Because of the loss of ground covering vegetation and decreased permeability of soils created by intense fire, much of the water that was historically absorbed into the ground for use by trees now remains on the surface resulting in increased erosion on both roads and trails. As many of us are aware, the pine beetle epidemic as described above has resulted in some of the largest and most devastating wildfires the state has ever seen. Locally, several OHV trails in the Williams Fork area have been significantly impacted by the Williams

Fork Fire and will require extensive reconstruction and implementation of erosion mitigation techniques using trail dozers and other trail equipment. In addition, the East Troublesome Fire decimated the entire Grand Lake Trail System in the Stillwater Pass area and will pose significant challenges as the Sulphur Ranger District works to limit erosion and reclaim and re-establish this premier OHV opportunity for Colorado. We strive to provide high quality experiences for visitors to the Grand Lake Trail System by maximizing safety and providing fun trails to ride.