

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

16  
 NW-P



<b>Name of Project:</b> Silt Mesa ERMA Paleontologist Project	<b>Date of Application:</b> 11/16/2023
---	--

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

<b>Total Project Cost:</b> \$5,700 <i>(round off to the nearest \$1)</i>	<b>Grant Request:</b> \$5,700 <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: Hi Country 4 Wheelers  
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2494 Glenwood Springs., CO. 81601  
 Telephone: 970-379-0544      Email: [hicountry4wheelers74co@gmail.com](mailto:hicountry4wheelers74co@gmail.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: Alex Crawford      Title: HC4W Board Member Project Manager  
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2494 Glenwood Springs, CO. 81647  
 Telephone: (970)618-4548      Email: [hicountry4wheelers74co@gmail.com](mailto:hicountry4wheelers74co@gmail.com)  
 Is this the primary contact for this grant:  
 YES       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: Alex Crawford      Title: HC4W Board Member Project Manager  
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2494 Glenwood Springs, CO. 81647  
 Telephone: (970)618-4548      Email: [hicountry4wheelers74co@gmail.com](mailto:hicountry4wheelers74co@gmail.com)

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

Name:      Title:  
 Mailing Address:  
 Telephone:      Email:

PROJECT LOCATION		
Nearest Town or City: Silt, Colorado		
County(ies): Garfield		
Provide a point of reference for mapping purposes (i.e. a google searchable landscape feature):		
Township/Range/Section: 5S R91W S29		
State Senate District #: 5	State Representative District #: 57	
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>BLM</u>		
TRAIL SYSTEM INFORMATION (List the number of miles for each type of OHV trail in your area)		
Miles of Singletrack: _____	Miles of 50" or less: _____	Miles of Full-sized: <u>1.2 miles</u>
TRAIL USER INFORMATION (Please check all that apply to the work planned for this project)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All-Terrain Vehicle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Side x Side	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full Sized 4X4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motorcycling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Four-Wheeling	<input type="checkbox"/> Accessible Access
PROJECT INFORMATION (Please check all activities that apply to this project.) Include detailed information for each in the Project Scope of Work.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Trail Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> Travel Plan Implementation	
<input type="checkbox"/> *New Trail Construction miles / ft. _____ (Approved through Travel Mgt Decision)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource Protection & Improvement	
<input type="checkbox"/> *Major Re-Route miles / ft. closed _____ (that will require new or additional environmental approvals) miles / ft. added _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Signs	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Corps	
<input type="checkbox"/> Restoration/Rehabilitation (existing corridor)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planning	
<input type="checkbox"/> Visitor Contacts & Law Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> Capital Equipment	
<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Land Acquisition or Other	
* New Trail Construction & Major Re-Route: Trail location(s) must be indicated on project map and detailed description of trail work plans must be provided in Project Selection Criteria, Section D-1, #3 Resource Protection, Enhancement & Restoration		
TRAIL ACTIVITIES SUMMARY (Based on your project description and budget, provide the percentage for each of the categories listed below.)		
<b>% of Budget</b>	<b>Program maintenance</b> (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.)	
	<b>Enforcement, Education &amp; Visitor Contacts</b> (e.g., patrols, enforcement, education and visitor contacts, wages, safety contacts, equipment, etc.)	
<b>100%</b>	<b>Planning &amp; Travel Plan Implementation</b> (e.g., planning, engineering, maps, inventorying, travel management signs & installation, decommission non-system routes, rehabilitation, new construction, wages, monitoring, etc.)	
	<b>Equipment /Materials/ Signs/ Youth Corps/Miscellaneous</b> (e.g., equipment maintenance and repair, personnel training, certification in the use of specialized equipment, program coordination, etc.)	
<b>100%</b>	<b>Total: (Note: Percentages should add to 100 %)</b>	

<b>SCOPE OF WORK – Project Description:</b>	
Project Name: Silt Mesa ERMA Paleontologist Project	Project No.: <i>(to be completed by CPW)</i>
Project Sponsor: Hi Country 4 Wheelers	Application Year: 2024-2025
Project Contact: Alex Crawford	Application No.: <i>(to be completed by CPW)</i>
Total Project Cost: \$5,700.00	Grant Request: \$5,700.00

**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.)

**Who:**  
Hi Country 4 Wheelers is a non-profit family-oriented group of 4x4 enthusiasts established in 1974 who enjoy the sport of off-roading. We encourage tread lightly policies and being good stewards of the land. We work together with local Forest Service and BLM agencies organizing and assisting with public land cleanups and trail maintenance to preserve and maintain roads, trails, and off-road open use areas.

HC4W volunteers and the respecting Bureau of Land Management will accomplish all work pertaining to this project.  
Alex Crawford is the person responsible for this project.

**Where:**  
Silt Mesa ERMA Location coordinates: 5S R91W S29

**What:**  
The reason for this grant request is to provide the needed funds to secure the BLM-approved Paleontological Survey to continue with the construction of the BLM-approved Silt Mesa ERMA new trail. This project will consist of the following activities:

- The following preliminary requirements as per the BLM’s new trail construction process have already been met: Archeological Survey, Biologist Survey, BLM pre-scoping and approval of trail
- This grant request is for the hiring of a Paleontologist to complete the BLM-approved survey of the 1.2 mile trail project.
- The BLM supports HC4W in managing the Paleontologist survey so the process may move forward.

**When:**  
The estimated timeframe for this project is contingent on payment to the Paleontologist.

- Upon receipt of funding, an appointment will be secured and payment can be made to the Paleontologist.
- The Paleontological Survey is needed in order to move forward with the BLM’s new trail construction requirements
- Upon receiving the Paleontologist’s report, the BLM will continue with their NEPA process
- When the NEPA process is finished and as soon as the payment has been made to the Paleontologist HC4W can move forward establishing the trail.

**Program Funding Acknowledgement:**

As in previous joint public land efforts with the BLM, HC4W will request a letter of recognition from the BLM to the public acknowledging the use of OHV funds for the project. Use of social media, club newsletters, and stickers on the trailhead sign will also acknowledge OHV dollars at work.

**Definitions:**

HC4W- Hi Country 4 Wheelers

BLM- Bureau of Land Management

ERMA- Extensive Recreation Management Area

NEPA- National Environmental Policy Act

# Budget Form

**Silt Mesa ERMA**

**Date Project will be Completed:**

**Project Sponsor:**

\*\*\*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)			<b>\$5,700.00</b>
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>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Example: To provide additional Salary, Materials, and/or Equipment</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>USE OF GRANT FUNDING</b> <small>List uses of grant funding (only) below</small>	<b>TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT</b>		<b>\$ 5,700.00</b>

<b>I. Personnel Costs</b> <small>Identify as: Salary/wage, benefits, travel, training, outfitting costs, personal protection equipment, etc.</small>				
Employee Name or Title/Grade	\$ Per Hr			Total Cost
	\$ -			\$ -
	\$ -			\$ -
	\$ -			\$ -
	\$ -			\$ -
	\$ -			\$ -
<small>For CPW use only: Approximate number of workhours</small>	#DIV/0!		<b>Category Total</b>	\$ -
<b>II. Project Materials/Supplies</b> <small>Identify as: Signs, rock, lumber, paint, nails, printing, maps/guides, education materials, etc.</small>				
	Price Per	Quantity	Total	
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
			<b>Category Total</b>	\$ -
<b>III. Equipment</b> <small>Identify as: Trail Dozers, ATV/UTV, motorcycle, chainsaws, winches, field equipment rentals, equipment fuel, repairs, and operations, etc.</small>				
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
			<b>Category Total</b>	\$ -
<b>III.A. FLEET Equipment</b> <small>Identify as: Crew Fleet Vehicles/Trucks monthly FOR &amp; USE, Fleet Equipment monthly USE.</small>				
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
			<b>Category Total</b>	\$ -
<b>IV. Contracted Services</b> <small>Identify as: Youth Corps, NEPA, planning, engineering, construction contractor/subcontractor costs</small>				
Paleontologist- Western Slope Paleontological Services Ltd.	\$5,700.00	1		\$5,700.00
	\$ -			\$ -
	\$ -			\$ -
			<b>Category Total</b>	\$ 5,700.00
<b>V. Volunteer Support</b> <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>				
	\$ -			\$ -
	\$ -			\$ -
			<b>Category Total</b>	\$ -
			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,700.00</b>

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

Silt Mesa EIRMA Project

Project Sponsor

H; Country 4 Wheelers

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:

~~Patricia~~ Hilary Boyd

Date: 11/14/23

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

Date and title of document:

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.

Grant application is for planning and to assist with NEPA process. If awarded the environmental assessment for Silt Mesa EIRMA is anticipated to follow the completion of the paleontological survey.

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

Hilary Boyd, Assistant Field Manager, BLM CRVFO - EA planned following

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

Hilary Boyd, Assistant Field Manager  
Print or type Land Manager's Name and Title

~~Patricia~~ Assistant Field Manager  
Land Manager Signature and Title

11/14/23  
Date

## 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.

Need for & Benefit of the Project:

Hi Country 4 Wheelers are looking to open a new OHV trail in the Silt Mesa ERMA BLM area (Squirrel Valley) north of Silt. This area is used by many area locals, but some of the trails have been closed due to private land crossings. We are hopeful to build and maintain an established trail that will alleviate landowner disputes and create a route for locals to get out and enjoy the beauty that is right in their own "backyard".

There has been an immense increase in the amount of OHV vehicles in Western Colorado and we feel that there is a need for additional trails to travel on to reduce overcrowding of existing trails. One aspect that makes this area unique compared to other BLM lands locally is that there is already ample trailer parking at the entrance to this recreational area. This trail is also very easily accessible to street legal vehicles as well. The town of Silt has provisions to allow OHV use within town limits and this area is accessible within the Garfield County rules for OHV use. The access is a paved road so there will be no additional wear to the road or dust created in accessing the trailhead area. The area is secluded with minimal residences in the proximity of the trail itself or trail access.

This area was originally access to local mining. Other uses for this area include multiple ohv roads, hunting access, and local ranch grazing area. We feel that the addition of a slightly more technical trail is a great opportunity for local enthusiasts to enjoy our public lands. With the trail being slightly more technical, it should not get overused but at the same time, it will give some of the more purpose-built rigs in our area a place to recreate. HC4W already has multiple adopt a trails locally and we look forward to helping maintain this trail as well.

Hi Country 4 Wheelers is applying for a grant to cover paleontology reports. The BLM has already completed the rest of the necessary research for this trail and has already spent these funds to do so. They do not have a staff paleontologist, so it is by the request of the BLM that Hi Country 4 Wheelers hire this research to complete the environmental study process. If we can gain the funds for this research, we will be able to move forward in a timely manner to complete the steps that the BLM has mostly completed.

There are multiple independent local OHV and Four-Wheel Drive specialty repair shops in the area as well as multiple OHV dealerships in proximity to this location. It would be beneficial to these businesses to have a more technical trail to refer their clients to for recreation. This trail will be perfect for a diverse group of users including UTV, ATV, dirt bike, and purpose-built off-road vehicles as well as street vehicles specifically modified for this type of off-highway travel. This location will draw in additional business opportunities for the downtown businesses as people will most likely travel through Silt to get to this trail and for their return trip. Interstate 70 access is on the south side of Silt so folks will be traveling right past these businesses in their travel to and from the interstate.

This area already has multiple easier trails. Adding a more technical rock crawling trail will help to diversify the uses. This will help expand the unique recreational area and help the town of Silt expand their efforts in promoting additional outdoor recreation possibilities for tourists. Expanding the use in this area will likely provide additional tourism opportunities for the restaurants, hotels, local stores, and gas stations within the Town of Silt.

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

Hi Country 4 Wheelers is a local non-profit four-wheel drive club established in 1974. We are very active in the community with multiple local "adopt a trails". The "adopt a trails" allow us the opportunity to work directly with the BLM and the Forest Service to help maintain these local trails. We also co-sponsor for the annual clean up at the Fravert Reservoir BLM recreational area for the many years. We have volunteered for multiple other trail clean-up efforts and have worked actively with the appropriate offices in these efforts. We have assisted in dozens of disabled and or immobilized vehicle recoveries over the years. Hi Country 4 Wheelers has demonstrated that we are a very good steward of the lands we recreate upon.

As a non-profit, we are asking for grant money to help with the financial burden to open this trail. We bring to the table a list of very dedicated, diverse, and experienced off-road enthusiasts who are offering to volunteer their time and equipment to help open and maintain this trail. However, we need help with the cost of the paleontology study to move forward in our volunteer work to establish this trail. The BLM has already completed the remainder of the preliminary research on this project. We believe that this trail will be a benefit to not only the local enthusiast-based businesses but also to the local gas stations, restaurants, campgrounds, etc. This location is also unique in the fact that the Town of Silt actively promotes OHV use with a town specific permit to allow OHV use within the city limits and a special use agreement with Garfield County. This trail is within these guidelines and the Town of Silt among the other following organizations are in support of this project.

Supporting local organizations:

- The Town of Silt
- Garfield County Commissioners
- CRVFO Bureau of Land Management
- Eagle County 4x4
- White River Trailer Runners ATV / UTV Club
- US Forest Service – Rifle Ranger District



### **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.

The purpose of this project is to secure the paleontological survey needed to meet the federal mandates of the NEPA process. The CRVFO BLM, HC4W, and others believe this survey will complete the necessary requirements for the NEPA process and therefore likely lead to the creation of a new OHV trail in the future. The survey is an important step in providing information that would determine resource protection.

The CRVFO has completed their archeological and biological surveys as per their NEPA process and there are currently no concerns about sensitive wildlife habitats or wetlands, drainage, or erosion issues in this area. HC4W will work with the CRVFO during the initial stages of establishing the trail to maintain the integrity of the drainage in the area.

#### **NEW Trail Construction vs. Major Trail Re-Route**

##### **New Trail Construction:**

- In the case of new trail construction, provide documentation that shows all required environmental reviews are completed or indicate the current status of that work.
- Under what TM Decision the work is being performed.
- Provide a description of new trail construction.
- Provide detailed map showing the new trail location and length.

**Major Re-Route:** Defined as trail work that will require new and/or additional environmental approvals. (Minor re-routes taking place on an already approved trail corridor will not be considered a *major* re-route, as described here.)

- Provide the number of miles or feet that are being re-routed and why.
- Provide a detailed map of where the trail re-route is located, showing old/current route and proposed re-route.

Not Applicable

#### ***Large Equipment Purchases, Maintenance and Disposition:***

Large Equipment purchased with OHV funding must have commitment to Long-Term Maintenance and Operations and must only be used for OHV Trail Maintenance Activities. When not in use, equipment will be made available for use on other OHV projects currently or previously supported by CPW. When equipment is no longer in use or needed, it should be passed on to another OHV Club, the BLM or Forest Service, or returned to CPW to insure continued OHV trail maintenance activities. Describe provisions to be made for the following:

- Who will be responsible for the operations and maintenance of the equipment?
- What is the expected annual budget for operations, maintenance and fuel?

- How many (machine) hours are needed to maintain the trail system?
- What is the expected annual cost for future operations and maintenance and will that be dependent upon additional OHV grants?
- What is the plan for equipment when not in use or when no longer needed?

Not Applicable

#### **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;

This survey must be completed as an important step in travel management planning. This project will determine if the new OHV trail can move forward.

Education

Currently not applicable

Enforcement and Compliance Activities

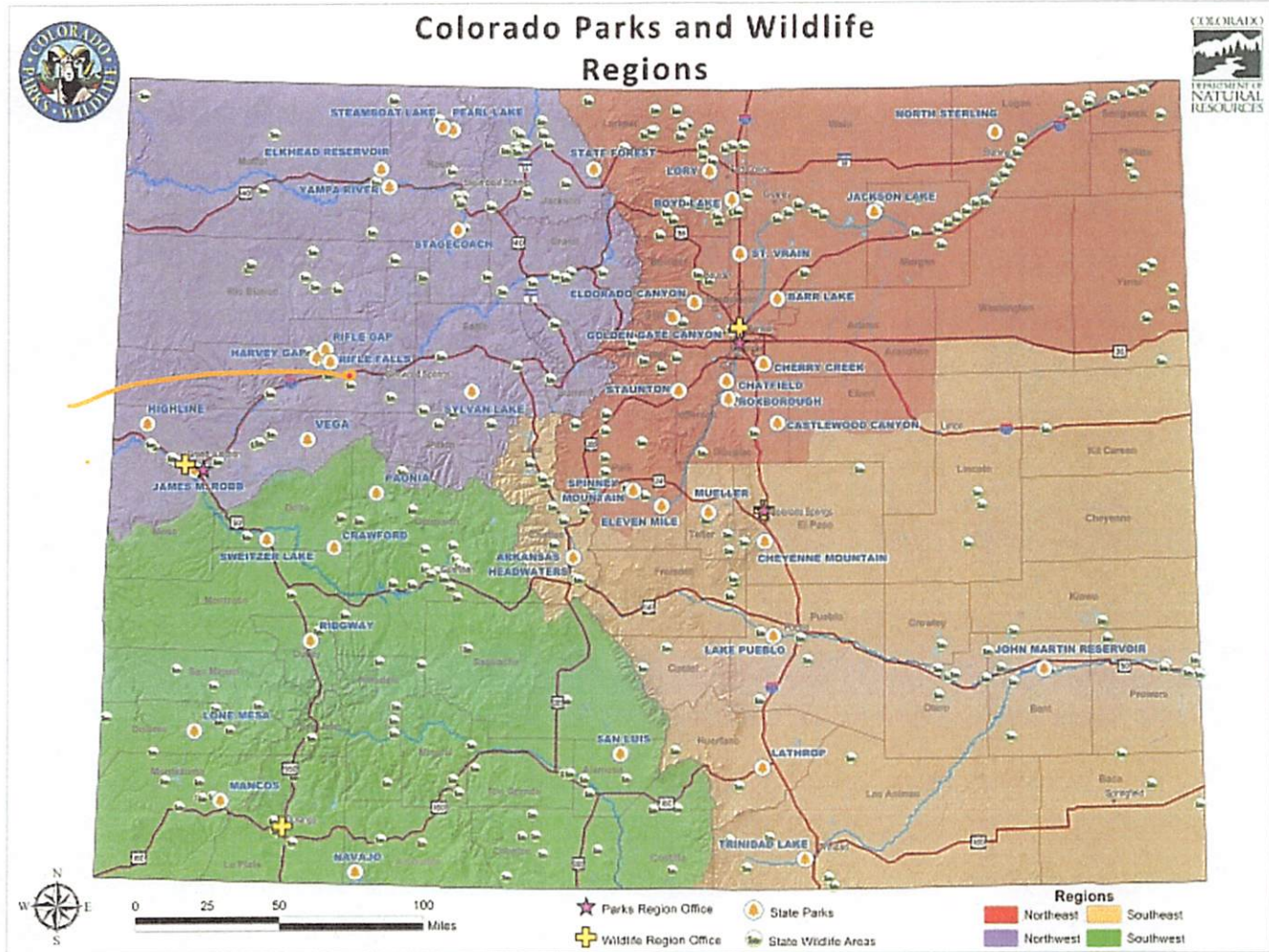
Currently not applicable

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

Maps being requested include:

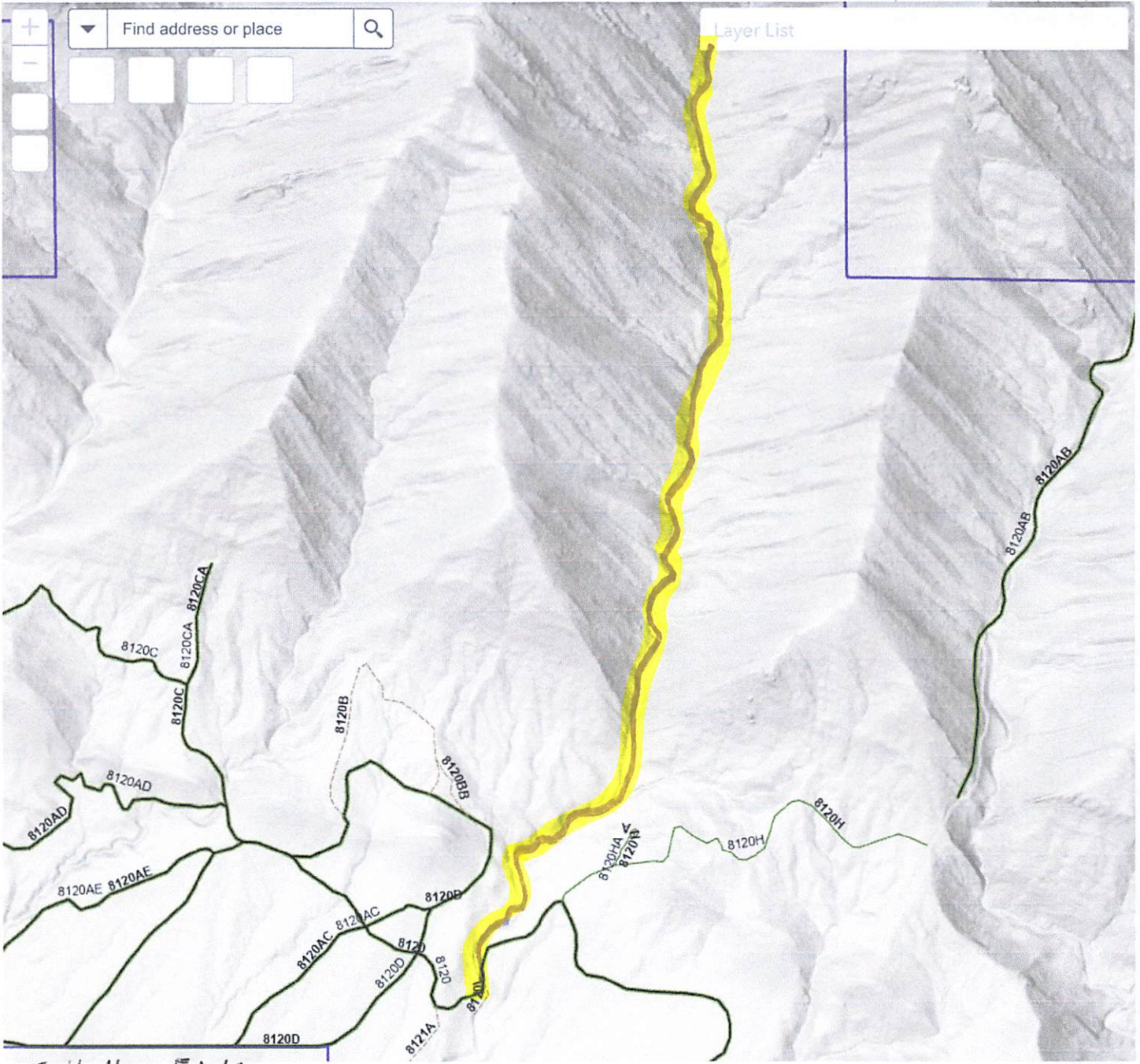
- “General area” (vicinity) map. (E-1)
- A drill-down of that map that shows the *specific* “project vicinity”. (E-2a)
- Another drill down map showing specific trails and/or work area (highlighted). (E-2b)

**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.



Silt Mesa ERMS

Projected Trail

## (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
- Engineering drawings of the project
- Diagrams/plans of the project



### **(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
-



## United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Colorado River Valley Field Office  
2300 River Frontage Road  
Silt, Colorado 81652

In Reply Refer To:

October 4, 2023

Dear OHV Program and Committee,

The BLM Colorado River Valley Field Office greatly appreciates our ongoing partnership with the Hi Country 4 Wheelers. We partner every year to conduct a large clean up at the Hubbard Mesa OHV Area, typically removing over five tons of refuse from the open OHV area. We also partner to complete challenging OHV recoveries. HC4W members have generously shared their time, expertise, and equipment to help the CRVFO maintain clean and safe OHV trails.

The HC4W proposed a new rock crawling trail in the Silt Mesa Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA). The proposal is for a roughly 1.2-mile trail that leads into the Grand Hogback drainage. Our Interdisciplinary Team has scoped the proposed trail and identified a single issue. The proposed trail is in an area that is classified with a high potential fossil yield. Therefore, we require that a paleontological survey be conducted to determine if any fossils within the proposed route are scientifically significant.

The CRVFO recognizes that the proposed trail, close to the Town of Silt and I-70 Exit 97, would provide a unique 4x4 experience not found anywhere else within the field office. The Town of Silt authorizes and allows OHVs to operate on the town streets, and Garfield County allows OHVs on the Peach Valley Road to provide easy access to the Silt Mesa ERMA. The proposed trail would provide locals and visitors alike with a great opportunity for a rock crawling 4x4 experience.

We hope that the committee will support HC4W's request for a paleontological survey so that the CRVFO can proceed with our National Environmental Policy Act analysis of the proposed trail. We value our partnership with HC4W and appreciate their work to provide legal and sustainable 4x4 opportunities for the local community and visitors.





Example of a vehicle recovery led by Hi Country 4 Wheelers members.

Sincerely,

HILARY  
BOYD

Digitally signed by  
HILARY BOYD  
Date: 2023.10.04 10:33:34  
-06'00'

Hilary Boyd  
Assistant Field Manager



---

**Date:** November 20, 2023

Colorado Parks and Wildlife  
Grant Committee

Dear OHV Program and Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Rifle Ranger District of the White River National Forest to express support for the grant application submitted by Hi Country 4 Wheelers (HC4W) to conduct a paleontological survey for the development of a new rock crawling trail. This proposed trail is located in the Silt Mesa Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA) managed by the BLM Colorado River Valley Field Office and would provide a high quality opportunity for OHV recreation that is legally accessible by local roads.

The Rifle Ranger District greatly appreciates our valuable partnership with HC4W whose members who have provided hundreds of hours of volunteer time repairing and maintaining our more challenging Forest roads that are used extensively by OHVs. Members provide information and assistance to the public while on club outings on popular OHV routes and attend meetings held by our local OHV club to collaborate on projects. The meticulous planning, attention to detail, and commitment demonstrated by HC4W in previous endeavors assure me that the grant funding will be utilized effectively and efficiently.

This project aligns perfectly with the shared goal of preserving our natural heritage and fostering sustainable OHV recreation opportunities on public land. It is evident that the development of this new trail would provide benefits to the local community and visitors alike.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly endorse this grant application and urge the committee to consider supporting HC4W in their effort to create additional well managed opportunities for OHV recreation.

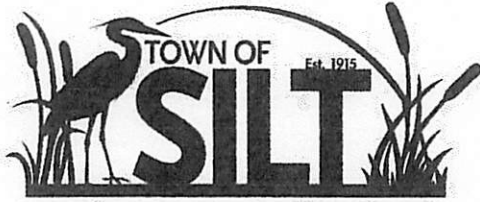
Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Todd Parker  
Rifle Ranger District Recreation Manager

[Todd.Parker2@usda.gov](mailto:Todd.Parker2@usda.gov)  
(970) 404 5565





231 N. 7<sup>th</sup> Street / P.O. Box 70 / Silt, CO 81652  
Phone: 970-876-2353 / Fax: 970-876-2937

---

November 6, 2023

Colorado Parks and Wildlife  
Grant Committee

Dear OHV Program and Committee,

I am writing today on behalf of the Town of Silt Board of Trustees.

OHV use in our part of the State of Colorado offers a unique and exciting recreational experience for those who live and visit here. The Town of Silt has enacted policies and ordinances that support OHV use on our Town streets and successfully lobbied Garfield County to do the same with roads north of Town leading to the Bureau of Land Management's Silt Mesa Extensive Recreation Management Area (EMRA), also known locally as "Squirrel Valley".

The Town has also endeavored to find new ways to attract additional outdoor recreational tourists to our area.

When we learned of the Hi Country 4-Wheeler's effort to develop a "new rock crawling trail" at Squirrel Valley, we were thrilled. The 1.2-mile proposed trail that leads into the Grand Hogback drainage would be a welcome addition to the recreational offerings of our area.

The Town of Silt sales tax revenues and its OHV enthusiasts stand to benefit from this new attraction. It would provide a fun 4x4 experience for this region and potentially attract some from elsewhere to stay in our hotels, eat in our restaurants and shop in our stores.

The Town of Silt supports this project and asks that the committee grant HC4W's request for funding for a paleontological survey that is required by the BLM before the project can continue in its development.

Thank you for your consideration on behalf of the Board of Trustees, citizens, merchants and guests of the Town of Silt.

Sincerely,

Jeff Layman  
Town Administrator

[jlayman@townofsilt.org](mailto:jlayman@townofsilt.org)

---

November 10, 2023

Jennifer Isenhardt  
President  
Hi Country 4 Wheelers

**OHV Grant Selection Subcommittee  
Colorado State Parks OHV Program  
13787 South Highway 85  
Littleton, CO 80125**

Dear OHV Committee Member:

Please accept this letter of support from Eagle County 4x4 for Hi Country 4 Wheelers Silt Mesa ERMA OHV grant that will help create a unique OHV experience in Western Colorado.

As the neighboring off-road club, we at Eagle County 4x4 are grateful for the mentorship and support of Hi Country 4 Wheelers. They set the benchmark that we aspire to achieve in our work as stewards of public land. We as a club are committed to supporting Hi Country 4 Wheelers in any way we can. We are happy to share the load in service to the Colorado River Valley BLM.

In Eagle County, we are blessed and cursed to have a robust tourism-based economy. Our trails are overwhelmingly traveled by visitors from the Front Range and out of state. Expanding OHV opportunities in the Silt area is an opportunity to relieve some of that demand on our local trail network, while also providing new opportunities for our locals. We have an abundance of "overlanding" roads, but crawling routes are especially lacking in this area. Silt is a perfect location to expand a more technical trail offering. We are thankful for the Town of Silt's support as not all municipalities in this area are so welcoming.

Eagle County 4x4 respectfully requests Colorado Parks and Wildlife's support of Hi Country 4 Wheelers' grant proposal.

Regards,



Bryan Woods, Ph.D.

President, Eagle County 4x4  
info@eaglecounty.4x4.org



White River Trail Runners  
651 Cedar Breaks Road  
Rifle, CO 81650

Hi Country 4 Wheelers  
PO Box 2494  
Glenwood Springs, CO 81602-2494

To Whom It May Concern:

The White River Trail Runners originated in 2009 with the goal to enhance and create motorized Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) opportunities throughout the Western Slope of Colorado. Our group consists of both corporate and individual members. Since our establishment, we have worked closely with the local Bureau of Land Management Office and Forest Service Agencies. We aim towards working more closely with local land managers to plan and enhance future off-roading opportunities. We have played an important role in dispersing travel rules and regulations out to the public and held annual trash cleanup events.

The White River Trail Runners is in support of the Hi Country 4 Wheeler's Silt Mesa ERMS project grant request. Squirrel Valley, located on Silt Mesa, is near and dear to our club, as many members ride the area. One of our members commented saying he dirt bikes the area and enjoys how close and compact the area is. We applaud the Hi Country 4 Wheelers club, as for decades they have been a valuable resource in maintaining and cleaning trails, helping to keep them open, assisting with vehicle recovery, and much more. It has been an honor to work beside them during the annual Hubbard Mesa Cleanup and the seasonal opening of Transfer Trail.

We would also like to request bilingual literature and signage for the area. Brochures and leaflets handed out by club members and BLM employees and volunteers would be extremely helpful. Signs in Spanish placed in a kiosk would help educate users on where to ride, "watch out situations," tread lightly techniques and registration information.

If you would like additional information about our club or partnership with the BLM, please contact me at (970) 309-7042 or nicholsfui@yahoo.com.

Thank you,

Susan C. Nichols-Alvis, President/Secretary  
White River Trail Runners ATV/UTV Club

*Tom Jankovsky, Chair Pro Tem*  
District 1

*John Martin, Chair*  
District 2

*Mike Samson*  
District 3



November 13, 2023

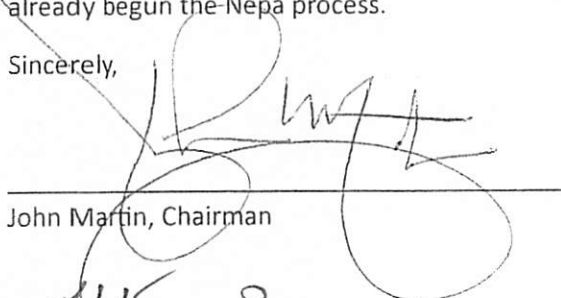
***RE: Hi Country 4 Wheelers request for letter of support***

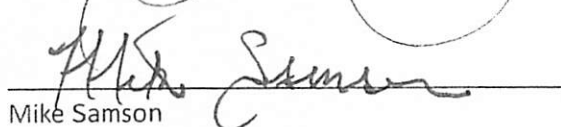
This letter is to express support from Garfield County Board of County Commissioners for the Hi Country 4 Wheelers (HC4W) as they file for an Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) grant from the Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) OHV fund grant program. The grant is to hire a paleontologist to do the Nepa-required paleontological survey then move forward with an Environmental Response Management Application (ERMA) trail project.

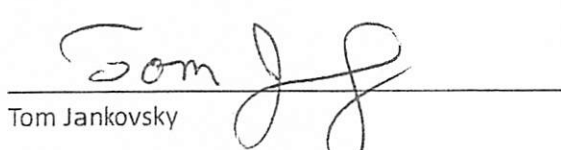
Hi Country 4 Wheelers (HC4W), a family-oriented group of 4x4 enthusiasts established in 1974 who encourage tread lightly policies and being good stewards of the land. We work together with local Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) agencies organizing and assisting with public land cleanups and trail maintenance to preserve and maintain roads, trails, and off-road open-use areas. The working relationship HC4W has with the Colorado River Valley Field Office (CRVFO) regarding trail projects and education is an excellent example of the cooperative efforts to maintain motorized use.

Hi Country 4 Wheelers has partnered with the Colorado River Valley Field Office (CRVFO) Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to establish a new rock crawling trail in the Silt Mesa Extensive Recreation Management Area. The 1.2-mile proposed trail which is close to the town of Silt, would provide a unique 4x4 experience not found anywhere else in our area. The CRVFO supports HC4W's project and has already begun the Nepa process.

Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Martin, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Samson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Jankovsky