

47 NW - P, YC, M

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



Name of Project: Grizzly Helena Trail Review	Date of Application: 12/1/2023
<i>(Please limit the project name to 5 words or less)</i>	
Total Project Cost: \$100,350	Grant Request: \$90,350
<i>(round off to the nearest \$1)</i>	<i>Amount Requested (round off to the nearest \$1) must match the Project Budget Form.</i>
PROJECT SPONSOR (Name and Address for entity legally responsible for project)	
Organization Name: Northern Colorado Trail Riders	
Mailing Address: PO Box 273344 , Ft. Collins, CO 80527	
Telephone:	Email: jldeeeney@gmail.com or jevensen1@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 <i>Project Contact</i> changes.	
Name: Jeff Deeeney	Title: NCTR Grant Coordinator
Mailing Address: 3001 Colt Court, Fort Collins, CO 80526	
Telephone: 970 218-6059	Email: jldeeeney@gmail.com
	Is this the primary contact for this grant: YES

PROJECT CLOSE-OUT CONTACT This is the person responsible for submitting receipts for project spending and close-out. Please notify us if <i>Project Contact</i> changes.	
Name: Jeff Deeeney	Title: NCTR Grant Coordinator
Mailing Address: 3001 Colt Court, Fort Collins, CO 80526	

Telephone: 970 218-6059	Email: jldeeney@gmail.com
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GRANTS & AGREEMENTS SPECIALIST (USFS only) or BUDGET CONTACT (BLM only)

Name:	Title:
Mailing Address:	
Telephone:	Email:

PROJECT LOCATION

Nearest Town or City: Walden, CO	
County(ies): Jackson	
Provide a point of reference for mapping purposes (i.e. a google searchable landscape feature): 40.67947, -106.58508	
Township/Range/Section: USGS Quadrangle - Pitchpine Mountain	
State Senate District #: 15	State Representative District #: 13

LAND OWNERSHIP

1. Provide the name/s of the property owners:
 2. The trail corridor is controlled by: Fee Simple Lease Easement License
 Right-of-Way Land Acquisition Ownership to be obtained Other (explain): .

TRAIL SYSTEM INFORMATION (List the number of miles for each type of OHV trail in your area)

Miles of Singletrack: . 14	Miles of 50" or less: . 15	Miles of Full-sized: . 0
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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 type="checkbox"/> Full Sized 4X4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motorcycling	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trail Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> Travel Plan Implementation
<input type="checkbox"/> *New Trail Construction miles / ft. _____ (Approved through Travel Mgt Decision)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource Protection & Improvement
<input type="checkbox"/> *Major Re-Route miles / ft. closed _____ (that will require new or additional <i>environmental</i> approvals) miles / ft. added _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Signs
	<input checked="" 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.)

% 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.)
	Enforcement, Education & Visitor Contacts (e.g., patrols, enforcement, education and visitor contacts, wages, safety contacts, equipment, etc.)
61%	Planning & Travel Plan Implementation (e.g., planning, engineering, maps, inventorying, travel management signs & installation, decommission non-system routes, rehabilitation, new construction, wages, monitoring, etc.)
39%	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: Grizzly Helena Trail Review	Project No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Project Sponsor: Northern Colorado Trail Riders	Application Year: 2024-2025
Project Contact: Jeff Deeney	Application No.: (to be completed by CPW)

Total Project Cost: \$100,350

Grant Request: \$90,350

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?

Northern Colorado Trail Riders (NCTR) is a not-for-profit motorcycle club. NCTR was formed 31 years ago to preserve and maintain motorized use on single track trails in Northern Colorado. Additionally, NCTR regularly provides annual spring/early summer maintenance including but not limited to reducing/removing dead and down trees blocking trails or interrupting access (preventing braiding/erosion), spring runoff triage, and basic trail work. NCTR and their assigned/designated Grant Coordinator will be responsible for project management and fulfillment.

WHERE?

The Grizzly Helena trail is located in North Park / Jackson county. It stretches ~30 miles along the eastern base of the Mt. Zirkle range & wilderness area (due west of Walden, CO). The trail is designated as USFS trail 1126.1. The trail is exclusively on USFS land that is managed by the Parks District.

WHAT? This project has two major focus areas: The first comprises a complete assessment of the entire trail, with special emphasis on the design of trail bridges that will span 4 creeks that are hazardous to cross, especially during spring runoff. The treacherous areas cause trail users to explore other locations to cross, further exacerbating the trail's deterioration. Every season there are examples of multiple bikes being submerged, adversely impacting water quality. Approximately 20 years ago there was a rider drowning fatality in the Red Canyon crossing. The result of the scoping portion will be identification of additional problem areas that will be addressed in a future grant, with a resulting report to be filed with the USFS and other relevant agencies. Working with the USFS, bridge locations will be surveyed and bridge design proposals made.

The secondary purpose of the grant is to have a combination of volunteer and youth crew labor perform critical repairs on sections of the trail that are adversely impacting the environment and causing rider safety issues. There is a riparian area South of Norris Creek that has grown into a large bog over the past few years. Also, a wet area just South of the Lone Pine crossing has turnpikes that need rebuilding.

WHEN? All of this work will be completed in the summer of 2025. Initial work can typically start in mid-June when the snow has melted out. On the ground activities will likely happen in late summer after the water levels have dropped. The final report and bridge designs will be completed by the end of CY2025.

Program Funding Acknowledgement –

NCTR maintains a Facebook page where updates will be made public. We will also be cross-posting to other social media sites. We also intend to contact local news agencies and let them know of our work. Where possible we will also engage the local mountain bike community (Overland Mountain Bike Association) for additional volunteer work.

DEFINITIONS? Do you need to define any terms or acronyms that are used in your project description? [The terminology for this planning grant application is straightforward.](#)

Budget Form

Project Name: Grizzly Helena Trail Review **Date Project will be Completed:** Dec 31, 2025

Project Sponsor: Northern Colorado Trail Riders

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

PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES <small>List all sources and amounts of project funding in this section (insert additional lines if needed)</small>	CASH	In-Kind (Non-Cash) Contributions	TOTAL
OHV Grant Funding (amount of requested OHV grant funds only)			\$ 90,350.00
Other Funding Sources - USFS Engineering Support	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
<small>List other sources of project funding, here, and for what the funding will be used. (insert more lines if needed)</small>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<small>Example: To provide additional Salary, Materials, and/or Equipment</small>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
			\$ 100,350.00
USE OF GRANT FUNDING		TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT	0

List uses of grant funding (only) below

I. Personnel Costs

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

Club Member/Employee Name or Title	\$ Per Hr		Total Cost
2 weeks of Rocky Mountain Youth Corp 9 person crew at \$17k/week	\$ -		\$ 34,000.00
18 days Consultant on site surveying and inventory	\$ -		\$ 18,000.00
Engineering Bridge Design	\$ -		\$ 30,000.00
Consultant engagement and final report	\$ -		\$ 7,000.00
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
	#DIV/0! <small>For CPW use only: Approximate number of workhours</small>	Category Total	\$ 89,000.00

II. Project Materials/Supplies

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

Plan to use native rock & timbers	Price Per	Quantit y	Total	
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
			Category Total	\$ -

III. Equipment Identify as: Trail Dozer, ATV, motorcycle, chainsaws, field equipment rentals, equipment fuel and repairs, fleet vehicle operations, etc.				
Included in consultant fees	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
			Category Total	\$ -
III.A. FLEET Equipment Identify as: Crew Fleet Vehicles/Trucks monthly FOR & USE, Fleet Equipment monthly USE.				
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
			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.				
Volunteer Mileage, 8 trips at 200 miles each, \$0.65/mile	\$ -			\$ 1,050.00
30 Volunteer meals, covering 2 events. \$10/meal	\$ -			\$ 300.00
	\$ -			\$ -
	\$ -			\$ -
			Category Total	\$ 1,350.00
VI. Insurance (Non-profit organizations only)				
	\$ -			\$ -
	\$ -			\$ -
			Category Total	\$ -
VII. Grant Administrative Costs (Non-profit organizations only) Identify as: administrative costs, office supplies, postage, phone charges, computer & printer supplies, etc. (Up to 5% of amount spent)				
	\$ -			\$ -
	\$ -			\$ -
	\$ -			\$ -
			Category Total	\$ -
				Total
				\$ 90,350.00

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

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

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	Grizzly Helena Trail Review	Project Sponsor	Northern Colorado Trail Riders
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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:

Routt National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan: 1997 Revision	Date:	02/1998
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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.

NEPA Review is not required. The proposed work falls under maintenance within the existing trail corridor.


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

Thomas Bates (thomas.bates@usda.gov) or current district ranger for the Parks District.

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

Thomas Bates, Deputy District Ranger

Print or type Land Manager's Name and Title

	Deputy District Ranger	11/28/2023	
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Land Manager Signature and Title

Date

C-2

NON-FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION and LAND MANAGER APPROVAL

The Applicant is responsible for filling out this TOP portion of this page ending at "Applicant Environmental Checklist". The applicant is also responsible for securing all necessary permits, licenses, clearances, and environmental analyses documentation necessary to comply with local, state, and/or federal laws.

Project Name		Project Sponsor	
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The project described in this application has my approval.

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Owners or Authorized Person's Signature and Title Date

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Print or type Owner's or Authorized Person's Name and Title

APPLICANT ENVIRONMENTAL CHECK LIST

Describe the process (es) or efforts you have made to review potential wildlife and environmental impacts of your project as concisely and specifically as possible. Include any relevant information in each of the category questions listed below and indicate which question you are answering. Examples are given of the types of information that may be valuable. If a question is not applicable to this project, please write "N/A" and state your reasoning.

1. **Species of Concern:** Is it likely that plant and/or wildlife species of concern are present on the proposed project site?
 - Federally listed, threatened, and/or endangered species
 - Species that are rare or have limited range in Colorado
2. **Habitats and their Values:** What habitats are present and how important, productive, or pristine is the wildlife habitat in the project area?
 - Describe habitats that are present and others that are adjacent to them
 - Existing development or human impacts to the proposed project area?
 - Critical habitat for a particular species, or an area with high value for nesting, feeding, or calving
3. **Potential Impacts:** List, in bulleted form, the proposed project activities. Then, describe how the project activities will, or potentially may, impact vegetation and/or wildlife. Include both short-term (during project activities) and long-term (impacts to habitats) effects.
 - Disturbance of sensitive species
 - Impacts to species during rest, feeding, or reproductive cycles
 - Encroachment, loss or reduction of habitat(s)
 - Intrusion into areas with little existing human impacts

Continued next page . . .

4. Mitigation: How will these impacts be addressed?

- Alternative design or trail route selection
- Timing of project activities
- Screening or users from wildlife area, protection of critical habitat, channeling use through less sensitive areas
- Improvement (i.e., restoration) to habitat areas upon project completion

5. Benefits: List habitat improvements such as restoration of wetlands, river corridors, and trail areas; restriction of recreationalists from sensitive areas; environmental or recreation education efforts.

- Education of users through environmental education programs, opportunities for “watchable wildlife,” and monitoring of wildlife impacts
- Reroute trails away from sensitive habitats

6. Environmental Compliance: Describe regulatory compliance, applicable permits and/or agency concurrence procedures that are, or are not required, and why.

- Migratory Bird Treaty Act (i.e., nesting habitats will not be impacted by the project due to the project’s timing or, surveys for nesting birds will be conducted prior to activities and, activities that may impact active nests will be postponed)
- Concurrence from USFWS for effects determinations (or rationale for why no such concurrence is required)
- US Army Corps of Engineers 404 permits
- Compliance with raptor guidelines recommended by Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Principle source of information: (e.g., Colorado Parks & Wildlife, Colorado Natural Heritage Program, local agency, staff biologist, consultant)

Printed name, title and telephone number of person consulted:

Signature of person consulted:

D-1

PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA

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

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

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

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

Stated goal of grant: Survey Grizzly Helena trail with emphasis on creating a plan for 4 bridges and also identify and document additional riparian areas for improvement. This is a scoping engagement to create a longer term plan within guidelines that's executable for future proposals.

This trail is within a 2-3 hour drive of most of the heavily populated front range. Over the past 10 years the front range has seen steadily decreasing OHV opportunities, while demand for OHV opportunities has increased. Some of the decreases in front range opportunities can be attributed to fires and floods over the last decade.

Over the past 40 years, the single track portions of the Grizzly-Helena trail have only received minimal maintenance and few upgrades. Some of the previous upgrades in riparian areas are now deteriorating. Other riparian areas are seeing increased trail braiding, resulting in sedimentation of the streams. This project will be a comprehensive review of the entire trail system with recommendations made for a larger construction project in the future.

Expected results of this grant are:

- Create plan to address 40 years of deferred maintenance with improvement sought for water crossings
- Bridges that get trail up and over spring runoff and water crossings:
 - Increased rider safety
 - Preservation of water quality
 - Reduction in trail braiding as trail users explore alternate crossings
 - Extension of riding season and use
 - Extension of trail clearing time to allow NCTR earlier and safer access for trail maintenance
 - Extension of trail access to Zirkel Wilderness for relevant users (hikers, horses, ATV where appropriate)
- Documentation of other riparian remediation areas and general trail inventory
 - Focus on water quality improvement/preservation
 - Reduction of trail braiding
 - Other improvements according to NOVCC "Great Trails" suggestions
 - Signage
 - User educational opportunities
 - Best-practices for trail layout, construction etc

A primary purpose of this grant is to survey four water crossings and design bridges for each of them, with the intent of later submitting a grant request to cover the construction and installation of these bridges. Bridges will not only increase rider safety throughout the season but will extend the riding season by at least 4 weeks by allowing safe passage over these drainages during spring runoff. A secondary purpose of this grant is to

perform an exhaustive inventory of other problem spots and to develop an improvement plan for a later grant request. We are proposing a 2 week engagement with a youth crew in this grant to address some of the most urgent maintenance that will reduce sedimentation in the drainages.

The scoping and inventory will be performed with resource protection and rider safety in mind, but will also seek to maintain some of the challenging characteristics of the current trail. We don't have an accurate count of how many riders are currently using this trail. Most of the riders we have encountered are visiting from both the Front Range and Summit County. Extending the riding season with bridges will expand the riding season by at least 25%. Increased rider safety would also be expected to significantly increase the number of motorcycle riders using this trail. Trail improvements will also make it easier for hikers, hunters and other outdoor enthusiasts to more easily access the Mt. Zirkel wilderness area. Hunting is one of the major economic drivers in Jackson County in the fall. One of the 4 bridges will be designed for ATV usage (see Figure 2 in Attachment E). The remaining bridges will be for single track users only.

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

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

This project is expected to use 2 weeks of a 9-member youth crew, and roughly 200 hours of NCTR volunteer resources to direct the trail crews, work closely with the scoping contractor, manage grant activities and invoices, and lend a hand to the youth crews if needed. The local mountain bike community and outdoor equipment retailers have expressed their support for this project.

We do not expect the current project to have any controversy. The planning will include the mitigation of some known environmental issues. All work in this project will be within the currently defined trail corridor.

The Parks District of the USFS will contribute roughly 1 person-month (~\$10k) to communicate with the contractor, perform any required NEPA activities that are not done by the contractor, and to assist in the design and approval of 4 different trail bridges. Excluding the USFS costs, the total grant project is \$90,350. While no other funding sources are expected, the Parks District may be able to obtain additional youth crew funding for the 2025 season. They are currently planning on 2 weeks of youth crew labor in the 2024 season.

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

(25 points):

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

The main focus area of this project is preservation of riparian areas and preservation of water quality with a focus on identification for further improvements:

- 4 water crossing proposals
 - Preservation of water quality by reducing motorized and foot traffic in the water
 - Preservation of trail tracks by reducing trail braiding
- Riparian Improvement survey
 - Reduction of trail braiding
 - Water quality preservation
 - Identification of drainage issues

The execution of this grant will leverage NCTR's 30 year history and experience in guiding grants successfully to meet USFS and other regulations and requirements. As this work will be done with qualified vendors and no major changes to the trail or other environmental impacts during the execution of this grant are expected. Minimal revegetation of the trail is expected due to the nature of the work.

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:

All equipment expenses will be included in the contractor costs and youth crew costs. NCTR volunteer efforts will be using our own tools and equipment, as required.

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:

- The extensive trail review/inventory and review will identify any additional needs for signage and tools that can be used to reduce user conflicts.
- Improvements to the trail will benefit motorcycle and ATV users, as well as hikers, horseback riders, and hunters visiting the Mt. Zirkel wilderness area.
- There are no known non-system trails in the area. In the event they are discovered during the inventory, they will be addressed in the subsequent grant request.
- Information gained in the trail inventory will complement the upcoming forest plan revision, as well as the next revision of the MVUM.

Education

- The need for additional signage and user education by trail kiosks and maps will be reviewed as part of the trail inventory.
- NCTR has a long history of stopping to educate other trail user groups and get their thoughts on multiple use trails. Without exception, every hiker we've had a conversation with has expressed gratitude for the trail work we have done. CDT users in particular complain about the lack of trail clearing in wilderness areas.
- There are currently no plans for trail patrols. This would require significant staffing that would likely need to come from a government agency that is located closer to the trails under discussion.

Enforcement and Compliance Activities:

- Because of the difficult terrain and large number of fallen trees, OHV compliance on the single track trails has not been a concern. There are currently no switchbacks that might be getting cut.
- The ATV sections North of the Lone Pine trailhead contain different width restrictions for ATVs that needs to be more clearly communicated. Some portions are 4x4, some are ATV, and some are UTV. We will use recommendations from the consultant to ID appropriate vehicles for different sections of the non-single track trails.
- This grant does not include resources for enforcement. Any need for that will be documented in the final trail inventory report. As stated, areas where users get off the designated route are essentially nonexistent. A raised bridge placed on the Northern end of the ATV trail several years ago has made off trail travel in a riparian area essentially impossible.

D-2

Land Acquisition Grant – Supplemental Criteria

An Off-Highway Vehicle Grant Application requires supplemental information for land acquisitions, land leases, or easement purchase proposals.

A plan is required to be eligible for funding from the State Trails Program. Applicants are encouraged to apply for a Planning Grant from the Recreational Trail Program or the Off-Highway Vehicle Program *before* submitting a land acquisition proposal.

Land Acquisition Grant Applications require a presentation to the State Trails Committee.

If you have any questions on the requirements, please contact State Trails' staff *prior to* submitting your application.

Please respond to each section, being sure to identify which question you are answering. Use your own paper with *one-page per section or up to four pages total*. Please respond in 12-pitch font. Evaluating a project without the following information is difficult, so failure to respond to sections may reduce a project's score.

Eligibility Criteria and Acquisition Costs Acceptable for Reimbursement - NA

- Only costs to acquire land, land leases or easements
- The purchase must be a fair market valuation
- Appraisals and legal fees
- An environmental review of the subject property
- Land surveys
- Transaction costs
- Property interest must be secured and controlled for a minimum of 25 years

Ineligibility Criteria and Acquisition Costs Unacceptable for Reimbursement - NA

- Site development
- Acquisitions that involve condemnation
- Insurance (except Title Insurance)
- Any work that is not directly relevant to trail development or acquisition
- Facilities that are ornamental and/or do not have a direct benefit to trail users
- Any applicant that is not in compliance with the terms and/or conditions of a prior and/or **existing** grant from the State Trails Program

Land Acquisition Grant –Criteria Questions

D-2 Continued

An Off-Highway Vehicle Grant Application requires supplemental information for land acquisitions, land leases, or easement purchase proposals.

I. Site Description

- A. Describe the site and surrounding area. What currently exists on the property? Include a site map that shows property boundaries, utilities, roads and structures. If larger than 8.5" x 11", maps must be folded into that size.

II. Planning

- A. Explain the *project* planning process surrounding the proposed acquisition. List all the steps required by rule or law of the governing agency for project approval. List the steps that have been completed.
- B. List local, state, and/or federal permits required for the project and list those requirements that have been fulfilled.
- C. Describe how the *project* is compatible to the requested acquisition.
- D. Is this project part of any local, regional, state or federal plans? List the goals and objectives of this project and how it ties these plans.

III. Public Notice

- A. Has the public been notified and invited to participate in the planning of the *project*? What type of public notice is required by rule or law to inform the public about a project?

IV. Public Involvement

- A. *Projects* may not be planned in isolation. The general public, adjacent landowners, and other interested parties should be involved from the outset. Describe the public involvement process used in the planning of this project and the results of any input.
- B. Summarize the most important comments received and your response to those comments.
- C. Describe any changes to your project design or scope of work based on public input.

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.

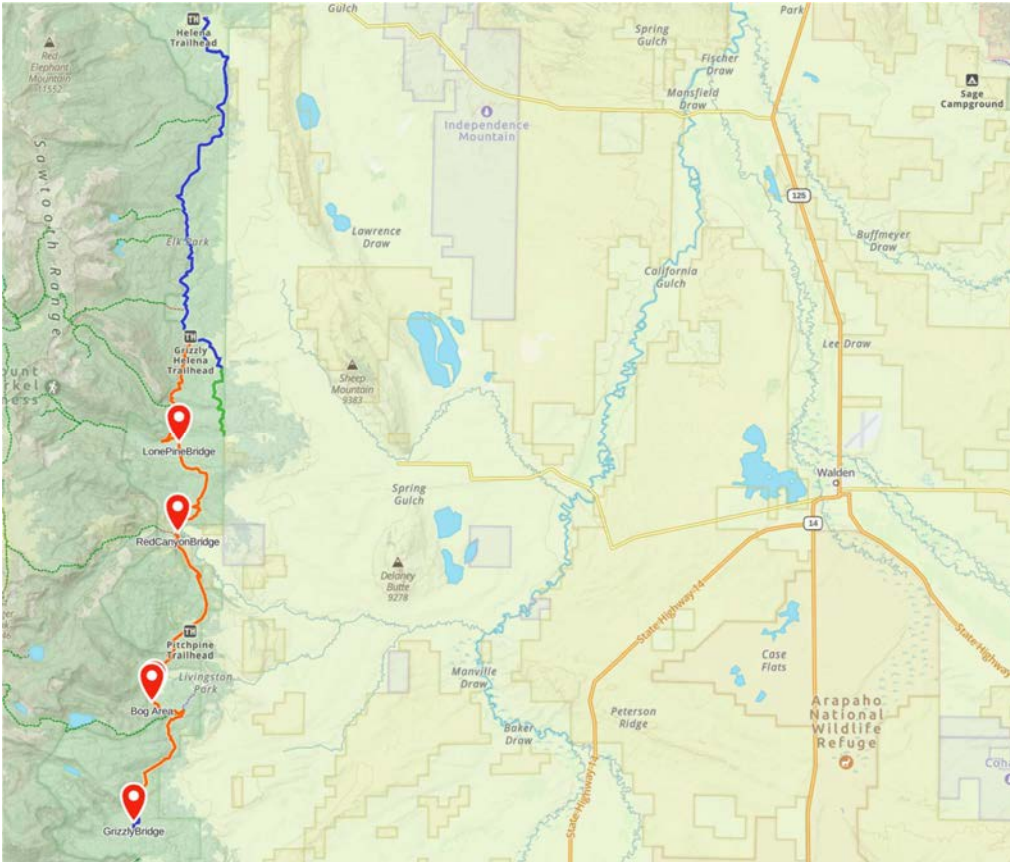


Figure 1 Entire Grizzly-Helena Trail system

Commented [1]: Are there two flags at the Bog Area?

- Current Single Track (in scope)
- Current 4x4 Road (out of scope)
- Current ATV Trail (in scope)

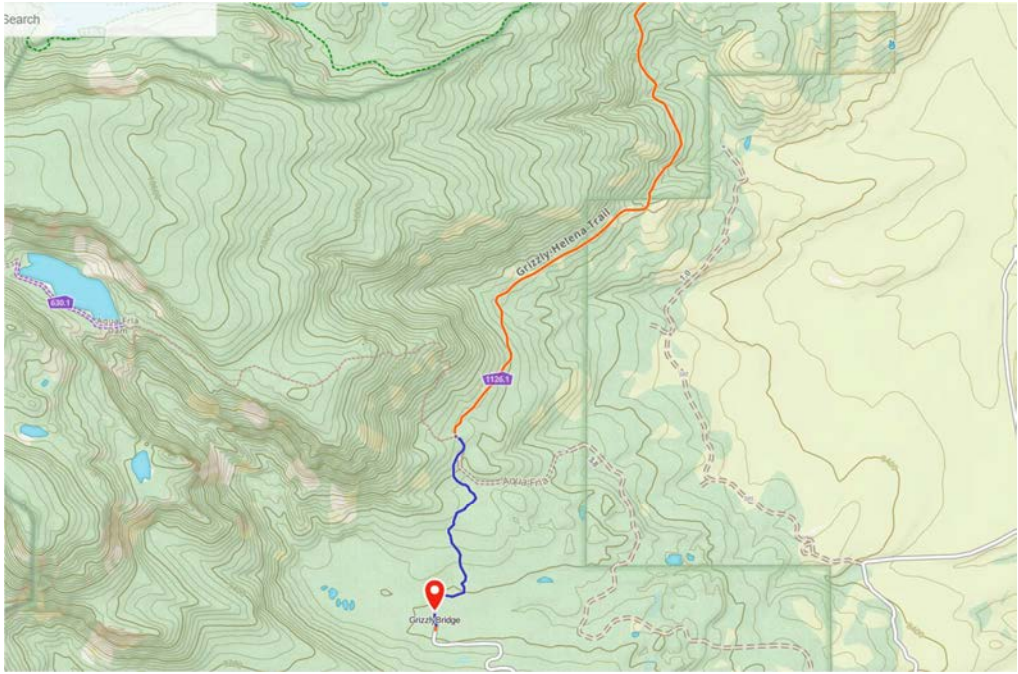


Figure 2 Location of Grizzly Creek ATV Bridge

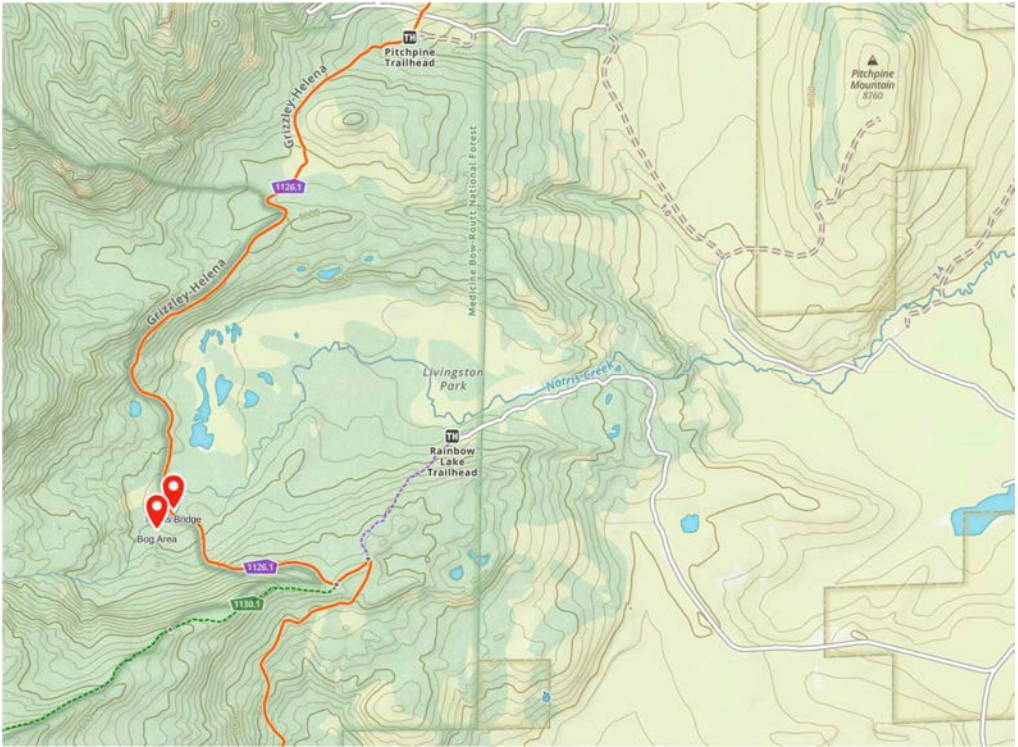


Figure 3 Location of Norris Creek Bridge and Bog Area

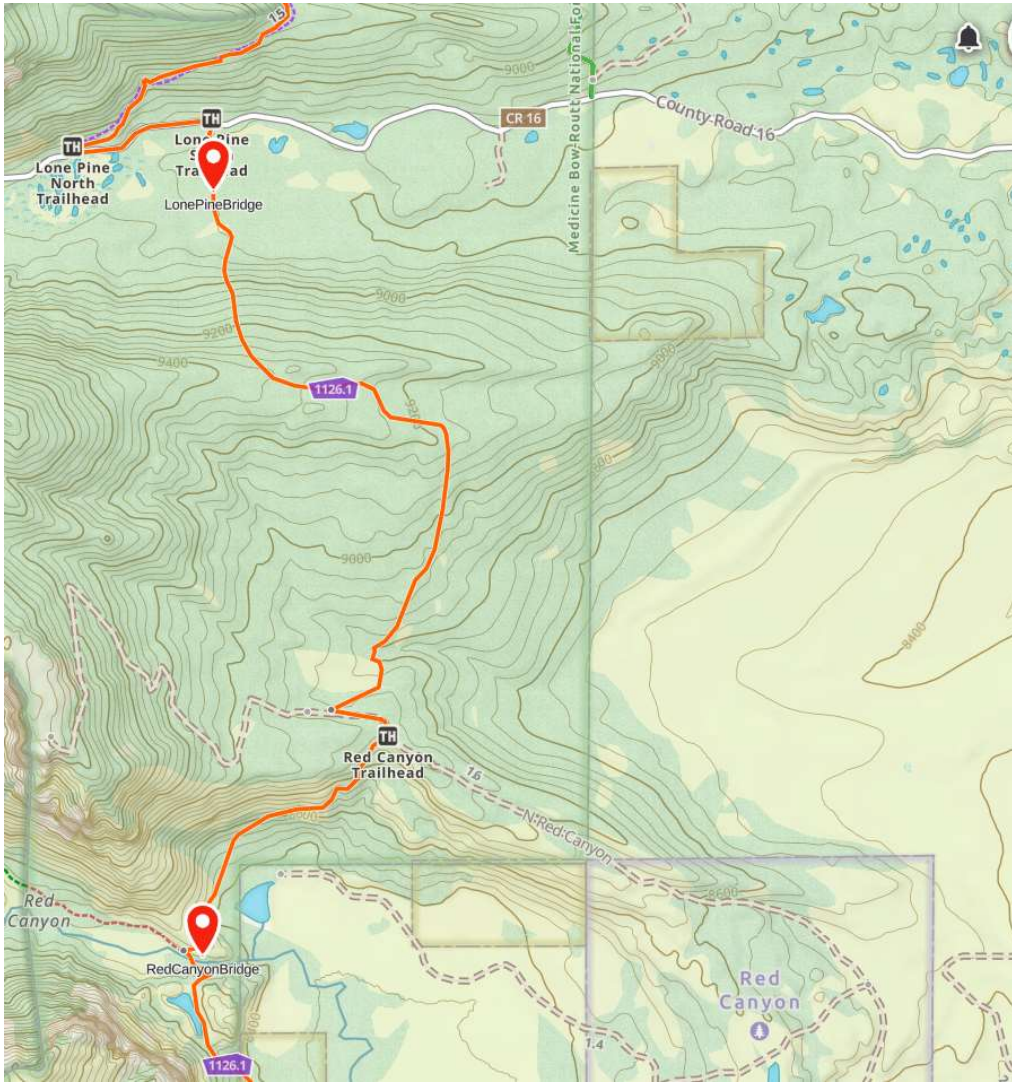


Figure 4 Location of Red Canyon and Lone Pine Bridges

(F) Project Illustration

Photographs, Drawings, Engineering Plans, Diagrams



Figure 5 Bog area near Norris Creek



Figure 6 Norris Creek at low flow - October 2023



Figure 7 Norris Creek during spring runoff



Figure 8 Proposed location of Red Canyon Bridge above slot canyon, just downstream of current crossing



Figure 9 Lone Pine crossing

(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
-



Forest
Service

Parks Ranger District

100 Main Street
P.O. Box 158
Walden, CO 80480
970-723-2700
Fax: 970-723-4610

File Code: 2300
Date: November 17, 2023

Mr. Travis Black
Northwest Region Manager
Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Northwest Region Office
711 Independent Ave.
Grand Junction CO 81505

Dear

I am writing on behalf of the Northern Colorado Trail Riders (NCTR), submitting a grant application for the Grizzly Helena Trail Project Planning. The Parks Ranger District of the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland is dedicated to the enhancement and preservation of outdoor recreational spaces, and we believe this project aligns perfectly with those goals.

The Grizzly Helena trail system, located in Western Jackson County (North Park), CO, has a considerable backlog of deferred maintenance. Annual efforts focused primarily on annual tree removal leave little time or funding for equally important structural maintenance. This multi-use trail, spanning approximately 30 miles along the Park Range, serves as a crucial resource for outdoor enthusiasts. The trail's proximity to the heavily populated front range amplifies the need for comprehensive improvements.

The grant seeks funding for developing a comprehensive plan to address significant repairs and enhancements to the Grizzly Helena Trail, with a focus on critical bridges and in-need trail sections. Specifically, NCTR aims to develop plans and ultimately execute the construction of four critical bridges to extend the trail's usability, enhance safety, restore wetland habitat, and preserve water quality. For the work itself, NCTR plans to use hand crews to repair critical sections of the trail to ensure environmental sustainability.

The Grizzly Helena Trail Project Planning grant offers a multitude of benefits by enhancing safety, increasing the trail's usability, contributing to the preservation of the local ecosystem, accommodating a diverse range of recreational activities, and generating economic benefits. This planning project is intended to revitalize a neglected trail system.

The Grizzly Helena Trail Project Planning grant is a crucial step in revitalizing and preserving a trail system with a large backlog of deferred maintenance, helping both the users and the environment. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact thomas.bates@usda.gov or 970-723-2701.



Caring for the Land and Serving People

Printed on Recycled Paper



Mr. Travis Black

2

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James P. Statezny".

JAMES STATEZNY
District Ranger



November 27, 2023

Mr. Travis Black - Northwest Region Manager
Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Northwest Region Office
711 Independent Ave.
Grand Junction CO 81505

Subject: Grizzly-Helena Trail Planning Grant - 2024-2025 OHV State Trail Grant Application – Northern Colorado Trail Riders

Dear Mr. Black:

I am writing on behalf of the Northern Colorado Trail Riders (NCTR), a volunteer organization committed to the preservation and enhancement of multi-use single-track trails in northern Colorado. NCTR is submitting a grant application to Colorado Parks & Wildlife with the aim of securing funding for a planning grant focused on the much-needed improvements to the Grizzly-Helena Trail in North Park, Colorado.

The Grizzly-Helena Trail spans approximately 30 miles along the base of the Mount Zirkel Wilderness and the North Park Range, west of Walden, Colorado. It has not undergone significant maintenance in decades. We believe that proper planning for the proposed improvements will bring about numerous benefits, catering to a diverse range of user groups, including hikers, mountain bikers, motorcycle and ATV riders, equestrians, anglers, hunters, and other outdoor enthusiasts.

The primary purpose of the grant funding is to be used for the engineering and ultimate construction of four critical bridges, which will play a pivotal role in extending the useful season of the trail by an additional 4-6 weeks annually. Moreover, these bridges are instrumental in reducing the environmental impact of stream crossings. The prevention of erosion and potential contamination of the stream water aligns with our commitment to preserving the natural integrity of the region. The current state of many impassable streams during the spring has unfortunately led to accidents, including loss of life. The proposed bridges will serve as a preventive measure, ensuring safer passage and reducing the risk of such incidents.

Off-highway vehicle trail opportunities are in high demand throughout the state. The grant funds will enable NCTR to develop a comprehensive plan for substantial repairs on the trail, with a focus on the engineering and construction of the four critical bridges. Along with the bridge construction, NCTR will develop strategies for hand crews to address specific sections of the trail, including the hardening of a wetland area.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this much-needed project funding.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Bearden
Executive Director – Overland Mountain Bike Association



**RAMPART RANGE
MOTORIZED MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, INC.**

PO BOX 3511, ENGLEWOOD, CO 80155

FOUNDED 1972

November 22, 2023

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

November 22, 2023

Dear Mr. Metsa,

I am writing this letter on behalf of Rampart Range Motorized Management Committee (RRMMC) in support of the Northern Colorado Trail Riders (NCTR) OHV Trail Grant Program application for the Grizzly Helena trail in North Park.

NCTR is a well-established OHV group out of Fort Collins Colorado. This group is no stranger to performing work on the Grizzly Helena trail. A quick internet search will provide many examples of work completed by NCTR on the Grizzly Helena trail. For example, on June 16th 2020, NCTR spent three days clearing trees from this trail. There is no mention in post as to exact number of trees, but it's likely in the hundreds.

RRMMC is confident that NCTR will use OHV grant funds appropriately and have the skills, knowledge, volunteers etc. necessary to execute on this grant application.

Sincerely,

Brandon Harris
RRMMC Treasurer

November 12, 2023

Mr. Travis Black
Northwest Region Manager
Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Northwest Region Office
711 Independent Ave.
Grand Junction CO 81505

**Subject: 2024-2025 State Trail Grant Application
Off-Highway Vehicle Program
Grizzly Helena Trail Project**

Dear Mr. Black:

I am writing to express my support for the Grizzly Helena Trail Project and to underscore the immense benefits it will bring to the community and its diverse user groups. I believe that the project, if funded, will address long-standing challenges, and create a safer and more accessible trail system for a wide range of outdoor enthusiasts.

The Grizzly Helena Trail has not received substantial maintenance work in decades, which has taken a toll on its usability and safety. The proposed improvements will have a positive and far-reaching impact on a variety of user groups, including hikers, mountain bikers, motorcycle riders, anglers, equestrians, ATV riders, and hunters. These enhancements will open up the trail to a broader and more diverse community of outdoor enthusiasts, catering to the needs and interests of many.

The proximity of this trail to the heavily populated front range makes it an ideal location for OHV (Off-Highway Vehicle) opportunities, which are in high demand. By securing the grant, we can fulfill this demand, fostering recreational opportunities for both local residents and visitors. In addition to our regional users, these visitors generate revenue for local and Statewide businesses.

One of the most notable aspects of the project is the construction of four critical bridges. These bridges will significantly extend the useful season of the trail, allowing more people to enjoy it for an additional 4-6 weeks each year. This extended accessibility is crucial, as it will not only boost trail usage but also promote economic activity in the surrounding areas.

The project's improvements will enhance safety and water quality in the area, addressing a pressing issue. Currently, many streams along the trail are impassable in the spring, leading to numerous accidents, including the unfortunate loss of life. The proposed bridges will serve as vital safety measures, preventing accidents and preserving lives. Additionally, they will help maintain water quality by reducing the risk of oil and gas leaks from vehicles crossing these streams while reducing the amount of erosion and sedimentation.

Furthermore, the hand crew brought in to repair critical trail sections and the hardening of the wetland will not only enhance the trail's sustainability but also provide valuable employment opportunities. This will support local workers and contribute to the economic vitality of the region.

With proper planning, hand crews can also be utilized to repair critical trail sections and the hardening of the wetland will not only enhance the trail's sustainability but also provide valuable employment opportunities. The support of local workers will contribute to the economic vitality of the region while minimizing the environmental impact of trail use.

I am confident that this planning grant will offer many benefits. Please consider my support for this project, and I hope that you will allocate the necessary funding to see it through to completion. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at communitycolorado@scheels.com or 970-663-7800.

Sincerely,

Kaitlin Wells



SCHEELS
4755 Ronald Reagan Blvd.
Johnstown, CO 80534
communitycolorado@scheels.com
970-663-7800



11/20/2023

Mr. Travis Black
Northwest Region Manager
Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Northwest Region Office
711 Independent Ave.
Grand Junction CO 81505

Subject: Grizzly Helena Trail Planning Grant - 2024-2025 State Trail Grant Application
Northern Colorado Trail Riders
Off-Highway Vehicle Program

Dear Mr. Black:

I am writing to express my support for the Northern Colorado Trail Riders' (NCTR's) Grizzly Helena Trail Planning grant and to emphasize the far-reaching benefits it will bring to the community, environment, and its diverse user groups. I believe that the project, if funded, will address long-standing challenges, and create a safer and more accessible trail system for a wide range of outdoor enthusiasts while positively impacting the environment.

The Grizzly Helena Trails have not received substantial maintenance work in decades, which has taken a toll on their sustainability and safety. The proposed plan will target improvements that will have a positive and far-reaching impact on a variety of user groups, including hikers, mountain bikers, motorcycle and ATV riders, equestrians, anglers, and hunters, as well as winter sportsmen. With proper planning, the enhancements will open up the trails to a broader and more diverse community of outdoor enthusiasts.

The proximity of this trail to the heavily populated front range makes it an ideal location for OHV (Off-Highway Vehicle) opportunities, which are in high demand. By securing the planning grant, NCTR can fulfill this demand, fostering recreational opportunities for both local residents and visitors.

One of the most notable aspects of the project is the construction of four critical bridges. These bridges will significantly extend the useful season of the trail, allowing more people to enjoy it for an additional 4-6 weeks each year. This extended accessibility is crucial, as it will not only improve trail usage but also boost numerous facets of the economy through the purchase of equipment and supplies for the related activities. More importantly, however, these bridges will reduce the environmental impact of stream crossings by preventing erosion and water contamination.

Currently, many streams along the trail are impassable in the spring, leading to numerous accidents, including the unfortunate loss of life. As stated above, they will help maintain water quality by reducing sedimentation and the risk of oil and gas leaks from vehicles crossing these streams.

With proper planning, hand crews can also be utilized to repair critical trail sections and the hardening of the wetland will not only enhance the trail's sustainability but also provide valuable employment opportunities. The support of local workers will contribute to the economic vitality of the region while minimizing the environmental impact of trail use.

I am confident that this planning grant will offer many benefits. Please consider my support for this project, and I hope that you will allocate the necessary funding to see it through to completion. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at communitycolorado@scheels.com or 970-663-7800.

Sincerely,

Kaitlin Wells



SCHEELS
4755 Ronald Reagan Blvd.
Johnstown, CO 80534
communitycolorado@scheels.com
970-663-7800

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

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 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