



# COLORADO

## Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

State Trails Program  
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March 18-19, 2020

2020 Non-Motorized Trail Grant funding awards as recommended by the State Recreational Trails Committee

This letter is a summary and explanation of the enclosed Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) 2020 Non-Motorized Trail Grant funding recommendations for Parks and Wildlife Commission (PWC) approval during the March 2020 meeting. We are requesting approval for 16 grants for a total award amount of \$2,688,014.50.

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Colorado Parks and Wildlife Division's (CPW) Trails Program, a statewide program within CPW, administers grants for trail-related projects on an annual basis. Local, county, and state governments, federal agencies, special recreation districts, and non-profit organizations with management responsibilities over public lands may apply for and are eligible to receive non-motorized and motorized trail grants.

### **Colorado's Non-Motorized Recreational Trails Program**

CPW's Trails Program was created with the adoption of Colorado's "Recreational Trails Act of 1971" codified in sections 33-11-101 through 33-11-112, Colorado Revised Statutes. The Grant Program provides funding for trail planning projects as well as small and large trail construction and maintenance projects. The Grant Program is a multi-agency partnership that includes CPW, Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO), Colorado Lottery, Federal Recreation Trails Funds (RTP) and the Federal Land and Water Conservation Funds (LWCF).

### **State Trails Committee**

The creation and role of the Committee are set forth in sections 33-11-105 to 107, C.R.S. In addition to using the Committee as an advisory body on the expenditure of funds appropriated by the General Assembly, the Commission also uses the Committee as an advisory body on the expenditure of federal and GOCO funds available for recreational trail purposes. The Committee consists of nine members appointed by the Commission representing each of the seven congressional districts from which one member represents Off Highway Vehicle interests. One At Large member who represents Snowmobile interests and one member represents the GOCO Board. The Committee reviews, scores, ranks and submits recommendations for funding of Recreation Trails Grants to the Commission for their consideration and final approval. (Appendix A lists the current Committee members.) Sections 33-11-105 to 33-11-107, C.R.S., describe the roles, responsibilities and relationship of the State Trails Committee in working with the Commission.



### **The Non-Motorized Recreation Trails Grant Application Process**

Trail Grant applications were posted on the Internet by August 1st this year. Trail grant opportunities are publicized annually through press releases, newsletters, the state website, and e-mail information networks. Technical assistance for grant preparation is provided by CPW Trails Program staff to potential applicants. The submission deadline for non-motorized Trail Grant applications was the first business day in October.

The Parks and Wildlife Commission (the Commission) has authorized a subcommittee structure to assist the Committee in formulating its grant recommendations. Subcommittees for each grant category and their members are appointed for the purpose of reviewing and ranking grants and compiling funding recommendations for the Committee. Subcommittee members include Committee members, representatives from GOCO, CPW Trails Program staff, and volunteer peer reviewers. Appendix A lists the individual members who served on each subcommittee.

After receiving recommendations from the Committee and approval from the Commission, grants are awarded for non-motorized trails projects on an annual basis.

### **The Non-Motorized Recreational Trails Grant Review and Ranking Process**

The Commission, through its Policy A-104, has authorized a subcommittee structure to assist the Committee in formulating its grant recommendations. Subcommittee members are appointed to review and rank grant applications and to assist in compiling funding recommendations for the Committee's consideration. To solicit public comment, all grant applications are posted on the CPW Trails Program's website and every public comment is evaluated as part of a subcommittee's grant review and ranking process.

All non-motorized trail grant applications are evaluated and ranked against each other. CPW's trail grant application review and ranking process follows a four-tiered review and approval protocol. All grant applications are first reviewed by CPW wildlife field biologists and regional CPW staff. This process allows CPW to flag potential wildlife issues prior to the review by the subcommittees. While concerns may be flagged during this review, CPW's field staff attempt to resolve these concerns prior to the subcommittee's review. These Regional Wildlife Impact summaries are shared with the subcommittee (Appendix E).

Next, applications are evaluated by two grant review and ranking subcommittees; *the Construction subcommittee and the Maintenance and Planning/Support subcommittee*. Grant scores are the average of subcommittee member scores (up to 10 volunteer reviewers per grant application) plus the average score of the CPW and GOCO staff reviewers, for a combined average score. The ranking subcommittees set a minimum grant funding score of 70 for the 2020 Non-Motorized Recreation Trails Grant application cycle. The volunteer reviewers represent a full spectrum of trail recreation interests including trail enthusiasts and park and natural resource professionals. The funding recommendations provided by the subcommittees and staff are based on a grant's rank and public input. The ranked applications are then passed to the Committee to evaluate the applications in ranked order and recommend funding strategies to the Commission. The Commission provides the final approval to the funded projects.

This process invites public review and comment at four separate stages; upon grant application submission, before the subcommittees, before the State Trails Committee and then before the Commission. To solicit public comment, proposed project descriptions are posted on the CPW Trails Program's website and all public comment is evaluated as part of the grant selection process. Appendix B lists the scores for each grant application as determined by each grant reviewer within each grant category.

## 2020 Non-motorized Recreational Trails Grants

The breakdown of received grant applications and amounts requested by the grant categories as follows:

Grant Categories	Received Applications	Amount Requested
Construction	12	\$2,671,983.81
Maintenance	6	\$716,016.79
Planning	6	\$185,815.00
Support	1	\$45,000.00
Land and Water Conservation Fund	1	\$750,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>\$4,368,815.60</b>

## FUNDING

For the 2020 Non-Motorized Recreational Trails Grant cycle approximately \$2,688,014.50 will be available from the following funding sources:

Source of Funding	Amount Available
Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO)	\$1,000,000.00
Federal Recreational Trails Program Non-Motorized & Diversified (RTP)	\$938,014.50
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)	\$750,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,688,014.50</b>

## DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY

For 2020, 26 eligible applications were received for a total grant request of \$4,368,815.60.60. The applications were scored by volunteer reviewers, GOCO, and CPW Trails Program staff.

Using direction from the Trails Program's Strategic Plan, the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and the Committee's grant funding policies, the recommended funding allocations for each grant category for this year are as follows:

Grant Category	Number of Grants	Proposed Funding
Construction	6	\$1,200,019.00
Maintenance	5	\$601,316.79
Planning	3	\$95,065.00
Support	1	\$41,613.71
Land and Water Conservation Fund	1	\$750,000.00
<b>Total Recreational Trail Grants</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>\$2,688,014.50</b>

## DIVISION RECOMMENDATION

Staff has provided the recommended funding spreadsheets for 2020 Non-Motorized Trails Grants (Appendix C) and Project Summaries (Appendix D) for Committee's review and approval. It is suggested that minor adjustments of project funding levels be permitted at the discretion of the Division Director.

If you have any questions on this information, or anything else related to the trails program, feel free to give me a call prior to the Commission meeting. Thank you.

# COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE DIVISION

## Appendix A Colorado State Parks - Trails Program Non-motorized Trail Grant Application Reviewers

### Application Reviewers

### Subcommittee

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**Wally Piccone**

*State Trails Committee, District 7*

**Scott Jones**

*State Trails Committee, District 4*

**Hedda Peterson**

*Gunnison County*

**Ture Nycum**

*City of Fruita*

**Steve Bonowski**

*Colorado Mountain Club*

**Tom Furgason**

*Colorado Mountain Bike Association*

**Jonathan Brooks**

*United States Forest Service*

**Tim Kugler**

*Gunnison Trails*

**Barbara Preskorn**

*Trails development grant writer*

**Construction**

**Linda Strand**

*State Trails Committee, GOCO Representative*

**Scott Jones**

*State Trails Committee, District 4*

**Bill Koerner**

*State Trails Committee, District 5*

**Lisa Bondi**

*Trails and Recreation Management*

**Anne Murphy**

*Town of Breckenridge*

**John Marriott**

*City of Arvada*

**Jarret Roberts**

*City of Boulder, Open Space and Mountain Parks*

**Kalem Lenard**

*Bureau of Land Management*

**Jack Placchi**

*Bureau of Land Management*

**Maintenance & Planning/Support**

### ***Reviewed All Grant Applications***

**Emily Orbanek**

**Josh Stoudt**

**Randy Engle**

**Ben Plankis**

**Fletcher Jacobs**

*GOCO*

*SW Trails Coordinator*

*NW Trails Coordinator*

*NE Trails Coordinator*

*State Trails Program*

## Appendix A

### State Recreation Trails Committee Members

COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE	DISTRICT/REPRESENTATION
<b>Jill Ozarski</b> Email: <a href="mailto:jill.ozarski@gmail.com">jill.ozarski@gmail.com</a>	District 1 1 <sup>st</sup> Term Expiration 06/30/2021 Non-Motorized Representative
<b>Christian Meyer</b> Email: <a href="mailto:cmeyer@digitalglobe.com">cmeyer@digitalglobe.com</a>	District 2 OHV Subcommittee Non-Motorized 2 <sup>nd</sup> Term Expiration 06/30/2021 Non-Motorized Representative
<b>Dustin Wilkinson</b> Email: <a href="mailto:wilk13@hotmail.com">wilk13@hotmail.com</a>	District 3 OHV Sub-Committee Chair 2 <sup>nd</sup> Term Expiration 06/30/2020 Motorized/Diversified Representative
<b>Scott Jones</b> Email: <a href="mailto:Scott.jones46@yahoo.com">Scott.jones46@yahoo.com</a>	District 4 Non-Motorized Sub-Committee Chair 1 <sup>st</sup> Term Expiration: 06/30/2020 Motorized/Diversified Representative
<b>Bill Koerner</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:buffalobill001@gmail.com">buffalobill001@gmail.com</a>	District 5 STC Committee Vice Chair 2 <sup>nd</sup> Term Expiration: 06/30/2021 Non-motorized
<b>Jerry Abboud</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:g.abboud@comcast.net">g.abboud@comcast.net</a>	District 6 1st Term Expiration 06/30/2022 Motorized/Diversified
<b>Wally Piccone</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:walpic@lakewood.org">walpic@lakewood.org</a>	District 7 Non-Motorized Sub-Committee Chair 1 <sup>st</sup> Term Expiration: 06/30/2021 Non-Motorized Representative
<b>Janelle Kukuk</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:kukuk@fone.net">kukuk@fone.net</a>	At Large STC Committee Chair Snowmobile Representative Snowmobile Subcommittee Chair 1 <sup>st</sup> Term Expiration 06/30/2020 Motorized/Diversified Representative
<b>Linda Jean Strand</b> Email: <a href="mailto:ljeanstrand@concast.net">ljeanstrand@concast.net</a>	GOCO Representative Non-Motorized Sub-Committee Chair 1 <sup>st</sup> Term Expiration: N/A

# Appendix B – Grant Reviewer Scores

## 2020 Construction

Grant #	Project Name/Sponsor	Volunteer Reviewer Scores									Outsider Score Averages	Averages with Outliers Removed	Staff Reviewer Scores				Staff Score Averages	Averages with Outliers Removed	Final Score
		Wally Piccone	Tim Kugler	Jonathan Brooks	Tom Furgason	Scott Jones	Ture Nycum	Hedda Peterson	Barbara Preskorn	Steve Bonowski			Randy Engle	Ben Plankis	Josh Stoudt	Emily Orbanek			
	<b>Subcommittee-Construction</b>																		
1	Ohio Avenue Safe Walk City of Gunnison	63	RECUSE	73	65	71	71	RECUSE	85	77	72.14	72.14	61	68	66	86	70.25	70.25	<b>71.20</b>
2	Phemister Trail Colorado State University	63	69	69	67	71	71	75	84	71	71.11	71.11	60	79	63	80	70.50	70.50	<b>70.81</b>
3	Sutey Ranch Trail BLM Colo River Valley Field Office	84	83	85	85	82	87	88	85	88	85.22	85.22	83	86	82	82	83.25	83.25	<b>84.24</b>
5	Pagosa Regional Trail Connection Archuleta County	84	87	80	83	86	90	93	98	89	87.78	86.50	82	80	85	87	83.50	83.50	<b>85.00</b>
6	Daniel's Pass Trail Colorado Springs Parks & Recreation	81	92	88	86	85	77	85	93	84	85.67	85.67	91	<b>73</b>	89	93	86.50	91.00	<b>88.33</b>
7	North Elk Creek Trail, Phase 2 Colorado Mountain Bike Association	<b>70</b>	90	90	RECUSE	81	85	77	86	84	82.88	84.71	96	87	86	86	88.75	88.75	<b>86.73</b>
8	Ward Station Trail City of Wheat Ridge	63	59	83	52	73	69	70	51	64	64.89	64.89	78	77	68	82	76.25	76.25	<b>70.57</b>
10	Twamore Farm Trail System City of Fort Morgan	78	88	79	74	87	81	84	75	84	81.11	81.11	89	82	75	87	83.25	83.25	<b>82.18</b>
11	Fraser Valley Smart Sizing, Ph. 1 Headwaters Trails Alliance	93	94	95	87	92	87	97	96	92	92.56	92.56	94	<b>80</b>	91	90	88.75	91.67	<b>92.11</b>
12	Virginia Canyon Mtn. Park, Ph. 1 City of Idaho Springs	63	74	91	RECUSE	61	79	72	69	80	73.63	73.63	88	77	62	76	75.75	75.75	<b>74.69</b>
17	Bear Creek Trail Improvements City of Lakewood	RECUSE	86	83	82	85	90	88	97	<b>71</b>	85.25	87.29	83	92	85	96	89.00	89.00	<b>88.14</b>

## 2020 Maintenance

Grant #	Project Name/Sponsor	Volunteer Reviewer Scores									Outsider Score Averages	Averages with Outliers Removed	STAFF REVIEWER SCORES				Staff Score Averages	Averages with Outliers Removed	Final Score
		Linda Strand	Lisa Bondi	Anne Murphy	Scott Jones	Bill Koerner	Kalem Lenard	John Marriott	Jack Placchi	Jarret Roberts			Randy Engle	Ben Plankis	Josh Stoudt	Emily Orbanek			
	<b>Subcommittee-Maintenance</b>																		
14	Partnership for Stewardship 20-22 Wildlands Restoration Volunteers	90	88	86	89	82	87	77	82	83	84.89	84.89	94	85	77	89	86.25	86.25	<b>85.57</b>
15	San Juan 14ers Trail Reconstruction Colorado Fourteeners Initiative	94	92	88	90	98	94	86	89	85	90.67	90.67	97	85	87	92	90.25	90.25	<b>90.46</b>
16	OMBA Trail Agent Project Overland Mtn. Bike Association	62	74	82	63	74	57	68	73	61	68.22	68.22	78	84	68	77	76.75	76.75	<b>72.49</b>
18	Boggy Draw Trail Maintenance USFS Dolores Ranger District	85	82	84	89	97	85	90	84	<b>73</b>	85.44	87.00	82	81	85	92	85.00	85.00	<b>86.00</b>
19	Project Raghorn USFS Pagosa Ranger District	93	88	87	91	96	93	92	87	83	90.00	90.00	80	<b>77</b>	92	93	85.50	88.33	<b>89.17</b>
20	Salida RD Trail Maintenance USFS Salida Ranger District	84	81	84	92	<b>97</b>	88	84	84	78	85.78	84.38	85	82	85	89	85.25	85.25	<b>84.81</b>



## 2020 Planning and Support

Grant #	Project Name/Sponsor	Volunteer Reviewer Scores									Outsider Score Averages	Averages w/ Outliers Removed	STAFF REVIEWER SCORES				Staff Score Averages	Averages w/ Outliers Removed	Final Score
		Linda Strand	Lisa Bondi	Anne Murphy	Scott Jones	Bill Koerner	Kalem Lenard	John Marriott	Jack Placchi	Jarret Roberts			Randy Engle	Ben Plankis	Josh Stoudt	Emily Orbanek			
<b>Subcommittee-Planning-Support</b>																			
<b>PLANNING APPLICATIONS</b>																			
21	Iron Mountain Trail Plan Town of Red Cliff	78	75	81	79	71	75	74	73	62	74.22	74.22	75	84	61	82	75.50	75.50	<b>74.86</b>
22	Leadville Area Trail System Plan Colorado Mountain Club	67	78	93	57	83	71	67	76	79	74.56	74.56	78	72	68	85	75.75	75.75	<b>75.15</b>
23	Ridgway Area Trails Regional Plan CO Plateau Mtn. Bike Trail Assoc.	72	77	89	81	70	75	88	83	73	78.67	78.67	93	87	84	80	86.00	86.00	<b>82.33</b>
24	Fox Run Regional Trail Plan El Paso County	79	89	95	85	87	85	92	90	71	85.89	87.75	80	84	81	87	83.00	83.00	<b>85.38</b>
25	Fruita Desert Cultural Surveys City of Fruita	78	70	84	85	72	81	92	80	76	79.78	79.78	96	79	83	87	86.25	86.25	<b>83.01</b>
27	Parachute Trail Plan Town of Parachute	67	71	87	75	75	68	79	62	68	72.44	72.44	75	90	61	75	75.25	75.25	<b>73.85</b>
<b>SUPPORT APPLICATIONS</b>																			
28	Trail Training Enhancement Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado	63	83	92	70	83	65	73	84	78	76.78	76.78	88	66	75	77	76.50	76.50	<b>76.64</b>

## Appendix C – Recommended Funding

2020 Construction							
Grant #	Volunteer Reviewer Score	Staff Reviewer Score	Final Score	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Amount Requested	Amount Funded
11	92.56	91.67	<b>92.11</b>	Fraser Valley Trail Smart Sizing, Phase 1	Headwaters Trails Alliance	\$ 175,000.00	\$ 175,000.00
5	86.50	83.25	<b>84.24</b>	Pagosa Regional Trail Connection	Archuleta County	\$ 198,100.00	\$ 198,100.00
6	85.67	91.67	<b>88.33</b>	Daniel's Pass Trail	Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation & Cultural Svcs	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
7	84.71	88.75	<b>86.73</b>	North Elk Creek Trail, Phase 2	Colorado Mountain Bike Association	\$ 212,777.00	\$ 212,777.00
3	85.22	83.25	<b>84.24</b>	Sutey Ranch Trail	BLM Colorado River Valley Field Office	\$ 138,392.00	\$ 138,392.00
10	81.11	83.25	<b>82.18</b>	Twamore Farm Trail System	City of Fort Morgan	\$ 225,750.00	\$ 225,750.00
12	73.63	75.75	74.69	Virginia Canyon Mountain Park, Phase 1	City of Idaho Springs	\$ 225,852.00	\$ -
1	72.14	70.25	71.20	Ohio Avenue Safe Walk	City of Gunnison	\$ 250,000.00	\$ -
2	72.14	70.50	70.81	Phemister Trail	Colorado State University	\$ 246,112.81	\$ -
8	64.89	76.25	70.57	Ward Station Trail	City of Wheat Ridge	\$ 250,000.00	\$ -
					<b>Total Amount Requested:</b>	<b>\$ 2,171,983.81</b>	<b>\$ 1,200,019.00</b>

2020 Maintenance							
Grant #	Volunteer Reviewer Score	Staff Reviewer Score	Final Score	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Amount Requested	Amount Funded
15	90.67	90.25	<b>90.46</b>	San Juan 14ers Trail Reconstruction	Colorado Fourteeners Initiative	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
19	90.00	88.33	<b>89.17</b>	Project Raghorn	USFS Pagosa Ranger District	\$ 106,000.00	\$ 106,000.00
18	87.00	85.00	<b>86.00</b>	Boggy Draw Trail Maintenance	USFS Dolores Ranger District	\$ 64,400.00	\$ 64,400.00
14	84.89	86.25	<b>85.57</b>	Partnership for Stewardship 2020-2022	Wildlands Restoration Volunteers	\$ 84,616.79	\$ 84,616.79
20	84.38	85.25	<b>84.81</b>	Salida RD Trail Maintenance	USFS Salida Ranger District	\$ 96,300.00	\$ 96,300.00
16	68.22	76.75	<b>72.49</b>	OMBA Trail Agent Project	Overland Mountain Bike Association	\$ 114,700.00	\$ -
					<b>Total Maintenance Requested:</b>	<b>\$716,016.79</b>	<b>\$601,316.79</b>

2020 Planning							
Grant #	Volunteer Reviewer Score	Staff Reviewer Score	Final Score	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Amount Requested	Amount Funded
24	87.75	83.00	<b>85.38</b>	Fox Run Regional Trail	El Paso County	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
25	79.78	86.25	<b>83.01</b>	Fruita Desert Cultural Surveys	City of Fruita	\$ 20,065.00	\$ 20,065.00
23	78.67	86.00	<b>82.33</b>	Ridgway Area Trails Regional Trail Plan	Colorado Plateau Mountain Bike Trail Association	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 45,000.00
22	74.56	75.75	<b>75.15</b>	Leadville Area Trail System Management	Colorado Mountain Club	\$ 23,805.00	
21	74.22	75.50	<b>74.86</b>	Iron Mountain Trail Project	Town of Red Cliff	\$ 21,945.00	
27	72.44	75.25	<b>73.85</b>	Parachute Trail	Town of Parachute	\$ 45,000.00	
					<b>Total Planning Requested:</b>	<b>\$ 185,815.00</b>	<b>\$ 95,065.00</b>

2020 Support							
Grant #	Volunteer Reviewer Score	Staff Reviewer Score	Final Score	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Amount Requested	Amount Funded
28	76.78	76.50	<b>76.64</b>	Trail Training Enhancement	Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 41,613.71
					<b>Total Support Requested:</b>	<b>\$ 45,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 41,613.71</b>

2020 LWCF							
Grant #	Volunteer Reviewer Score	Staff Reviewer Score	Final Score	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Amount Requested	Amount Funded
17	87.29	89.00	88.14	Bear Creek Trail Improvements	City of Lakewood	\$ 750,000.00	\$ 750,000.00
					<b>Total Planning Requested:</b>	<b>\$ 750,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 750,000.00</b>



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## Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

### 2020 Non-Motorized Trail Grant Summaries

Project Number/Region	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Grant Type	Amount Requested	Total Cost
#1 – SW	<b>Ohio Avenue Safe Walk Construction</b>	<b>City of Gunnison</b>	<b>Const</b>	<b>\$250,000.00</b>	<b>\$429,464.81</b>
<b>Description</b>	Construct a protected bike and pedestrian corridor on Ohio Avenue, providing a safe route between Western Colorado University, residential neighborhoods, schools, the downtown business district, existing local trail systems and north/south sidewalks and bike lanes. It will also connect two open space trail systems.				
#2 – NE	<b>Phemister Trail</b>	<b>Colorado State University</b>	<b>Const</b>	<b>\$246,112.81</b>	<b>\$351,589.73</b>
<b>Description</b>	Construct a new trail from Ft. Collins Gardens at Spring Creek through Lilac Park and the CSU Horticulture Center to CSU’s newly constructed Prospect Underpass. The trail will provide safe access to the university for thousands of daily commuters, visitors and community members.				
#3 – NW	<b>Sutey Ranch Trail</b>	<b>BLM Colorado River Valley Field Office</b>	<b>Const</b>	<b>\$138,392.00</b>	<b>\$194,155.60</b>
<b>Description</b>	This project is on the newly acquired Sutey Ranch near Carbondale, CO. Part 1 is construction of a horse trailer parking lot and a nose-in parking lot for vehicles without trailers. Part 2 is construction of a 3.2-mile long mountain bike trail to connect to existing trails in the nearby Red Hill SRMA.				
#4 – NE	<b>Tolland Ranch Trail</b>	<b>Boulder County Parks and Open Space</b>	<b>Const</b>	<b>\$250,000.00</b>	<b>\$591,323.00</b>
<b>Description</b>	Tolland Ranch Trail will be approximately 6 miles in length, 12-24” in width with a natural surface, rock retaining walls, trail armoring and causeways. The trail lies within an easement in the Arapaho Roosevelt National Forest in Boulder and Gilpin counties. The trail will connect two existing USFS trail systems: Jenny Creek/Rollins Pass area to the west and the Magnolia Trail System to the east.				
#5 – SW	<b>Pagosa Regional Trail Connection</b>	<b>Archuleta County</b>	<b>Const</b>	<b>\$198,100.00</b>	<b>\$398,100.00</b>
<b>Description</b>	This project will construct an 8-foot wide, non-motorized footbridge and trail access across the crest of the Village Lake dam and spillway, adjacent to N. Pagosa Blvd. It will provide a new segment of hard surface trail/walkway that will connect to existing trails at the north and south end of the project area. The proximity to the lake will provide an excellent opportunity for interpretive signs with information on the waterfowl seen in the area, along with importance of protecting wildlife habitat.				
#6 – SE	<b>Daniel’s Pass Trail</b>	<b>Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services</b>	<b>Const</b>	<b>\$250,000.00</b>	<b>\$340,000.00</b>
<b>Description</b>	The Daniel’s Pass Trail provides critical connectivity to Gold Camp Road, a primary recreation route that connects to trails in the adjacent Pike National Forest. It will link to the Cheyenne Mountain Heritage Trail, a 30-mile loop around Cheyenne Mountain. Construction will include a trailhead parking lot, 3.4 miles of soft surface trail, 2 pedestrian bridges and interpretive signage.				



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Department of Natural Resources

### 2020 Non-Motorized Trail Grant Summaries

<b>#7 – NE</b>	<b>North Elk Creek Trail, Phase 2</b>	<b>Colorado Mountain Bike Association</b>	<b>Const</b>	<b>\$212,777.00</b>	<b>\$280,250.00</b>
<b>Description</b>	Phase 2 will add 5.2 miles of trail in upper and lower connectors linking to the existing North Elk Creek Trail and Staunton State Park trails, construct small links to other sections of the Staunton trail system and assist with treatment of noxious weeds. Construction will take place in summer and autumn of 2020, after the seasonal closure that is part of the comprehensive plan for this area.				
<b>#8 – NE</b>	<b>Ward Station Trail</b>	<b>City of Wheat Ridge</b>	<b>Const</b>	<b>\$250,000.00</b>	<b>\$700,000.00</b>
<b>Description</b>	Construct a trail to connect the new Wheat Ridge Ward Station to existing and planned green infrastructure throughout the community. The trail will provide a critical multi-modal connection to recreational facilities. In conjunction with the trail, the City is constructing a non-vehicular bridge over the rail corridor that will allow people using the trail to easily access the Ward Station.				
<b>#9 – NE</b>	<b>Fall River Trail, Phase 1</b>	<b>Town of Estes Park</b>	<b>Const</b>	<b>\$250,000.00</b>	<b>\$460,936.00</b>
<b>Description</b>	Construct a 375-foot segment of a planned 2.5-mile multimodal trail that will start at Rocky Mountain National Park’s boundary at Aspenglen Campground and extend out along Fish Hatchery Road. This segment will build upon two connected segments of trail that were funded through CPW State Trails grants in 2018 and 2019.				
<b>#10 – NE</b>	<b>Twamore Farm Trail System</b>	<b>City of Fort Morgan</b>	<b>Const</b>	<b>\$225,750.00</b>	<b>\$331,635.00</b>
<b>Description</b>	The City plans to develop a trail system along the north side of the South Platte River and opposite Riverside Park. This project will consist of 3.85 miles of 10-foot wide multipurpose trail and 3.5 miles of interconnecting nature trails, a trailhead, parking and access points to the river.				
<b>#11 – NW</b>	<b>Fraser Valley Trail Smart Sizing, Phase 1</b>	<b>Headwaters Trails Alliance</b>	<b>Const</b>	<b>\$175,000.00</b>	<b>\$402,490.00</b>
<b>Description</b>	The Trail Smart Sizing (TSS) project plan for Phase 1 includes trail reroutes, decommissioning and restoration, bridge construction, new trail construction, road to trail conversion and maintenance improvements on five separate trails. Projects completed will connect the St. Louis Creek, Elk Creek and Leland Creek trail systems.				
<b>#12 – NE</b>	<b>Virginia Canyon Mountain Park, Phase 1</b>	<b>City of Idaho Springs</b>	<b>Const</b>	<b>\$225,852.00</b>	<b>\$294,142.00</b>
<b>Description</b>	Phase 1 is the first step of completing trails that were planned and designed as part of a recently completed Master Plan effort. This phase will construct approximately 3 miles of multi-use, single-track trail that will reach the peak of a scenic overlook to the north of the city. The project will include trail construction, installation of a bridge and a picnic area.				
<b>#17 – NE</b>	<b>Bear Creek Trail Improvements</b>	<b>City of Lakewood</b>	<b>LWCF</b>	<b>\$750,000.00</b>	<b>\$2,032,479.85</b>
<b>Description</b>	Improvements to the Bear Creek Trail include the addition of a crusher fines parallel trail, widening and realigning the concrete trail in certain sections and adding striping and signage to enhance safety and wayfinding. This will help alleviate congestion along the trail by providing an alternative natural surface for walkers and runners.				



# COLORADO

## Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

### 2020 Non-Motorized Trail Grant Summaries

<b>#14 – NE/NW/SW</b>	<b>Partnership for Stewardship 2020-2022</b>	<b>Wildlands Restoration Volunteers</b>	<b>Maint</b>	<b>\$84,616.79</b>	<b>\$244,300.30</b>
<b>Description</b>	WRV will mobilize its extensive volunteer community to help with wilderness corridor clearing statewide and conduct trail maintenance/reroute projects at three different sites in 2020-2022.				
<b>#15 – SW</b>	<b>San Juan 14ers Trail Reconstruction</b>	<b>Colorado Fourteeners Initiative</b>	<b>Maint</b>	<b>\$250,000.00</b>	<b>\$808,918.80</b>
<b>Description</b>	CFI will perform trail reroute/reconstruction/closure and delineation/heavy trail maintenance on four 14ers in the San Juan mountain range. Peaks include Mt. Wilson, Handies, Redcloud and Sunshine. Work involves use of native materials (rocks and logs) to build soil retention/tread protection structures on natural surface trails at very high altitudes in fragile alpine ecosystems.				
<b>#16 – NE</b>	<b>OMBA Trail Agent Project</b>	<b>Overland Mountain Bike Association</b>	<b>Maint</b>	<b>\$114,700.00</b>	<b>\$184,975.00</b>
<b>Description</b>	This project will significantly reduce the existing 10-year maintenance backlog on existing non-motorized multi-use trails within the USFS Canyon Lakes Ranger District within the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest. The scope of work includes basic maintenance, reroutes, and tread stability improvements. Trail Agents will also complete formal surveys with guidance from FS District staff to determine additional trail needs, such as major maintenance or larger reroutes.				
<b>#18 – SW</b>	<b>Boggy Draw Trail Maintenance</b>	<b>USFS Dolores Ranger District</b>	<b>Maint</b>	<b>\$64,400.00</b>	<b>\$130,236.26</b>
<b>Description</b>	The Boggy Draw Trail System is north of Dolores, CO on the San Juan National Forest. Crews will complete trail and tread maintenance including minor reroutes, clearing, drainage repair stabilization and sign replacement. Also requested is the purchase of 10 single-track cattle guards that will be placed on grazing allotment fence lines. Work will be completed by Youth Corps staff in coordination with the Forest Service Trail Program lead.				
<b>#19 – SW</b>	<b>Project Raghorn</b>	<b>USFS Pagosa Ranger District</b>	<b>Maint</b>	<b>\$106,000.00</b>	<b>\$221,570.20</b>
<b>Description</b>	Access to backcountry and wilderness areas used by recreationists and hunters in the San Juan NF has been jeopardized by the spruce beetle epidemic in Southern Colorado. Youth Corps saw crews will clear downed trees from the trails. Maintenance will consist of trail crews re-establishing trail tread and repairing or installing drainage features.				
<b>#20 – SE</b>	<b>Salida RD Trail Maintenance</b>	<b>USFS Salida Ranger District</b>	<b>Maint</b>	<b>\$96,300.00</b>	<b>\$170,500.00</b>
<b>Description</b>	The Salida Ranger District will hire, coordinate and supervise a non-motorized trail crew focused on the maintenance of the hike, bike and equestrian trail system within the district's four counties as well as on the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail and the Collegiate Peaks and Sangre de Cristo Wilderness Areas.				



# COLORADO

## Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

### 2020 Non-Motorized Trail Grant Summaries

Project Number/Region	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Grant Type	Amount Requested	Total Cost
#21 – NW	<b>Iron Mountain Trail Project</b>	<b>Town of Red Cliff</b>	<b>Planning</b>	<b>\$21,945.00</b>	<b>\$29,650.00</b>
<b>Description</b>	The town owns a large open space that will be dedicated toward non-motorized recreation. Planning efforts include a topographic survey of the area to be designated for trails; a technical report regarding wildlife habitat; a trail design and plans for seasonal closures during calving seasons.				
#22 – SE	<b>Leadville Area Trail System Mgmt. Planning</b>	<b>Colorado Mountain Club</b>	<b>Planning</b>	<b>\$23,805.00</b>	<b>\$32,209.00</b>
<b>Description</b>	CMC will collaborate with the Leadville Ranger District to complete a comprehensive inventory and assessment of maintenance needs on their non-motorized trail system. The goal is to collect and analyze data to help area manager prioritize and plan trail improvement projects. The plan will enhance the existing infrastructure to improve user safety and experience while helping to protect the surrounding natural resources.				
#23 – SW	<b>Ridgway Area Trails Regional Trail Plan</b>	<b>Colorado Plateau Mountain Bike Trail Association</b>	<b>Planning</b>	<b>\$45,000.00</b>	<b>\$58,500.00</b>
<b>Description</b>	Prepare a regional trail plan that will focus on the assessment of potential, non-motorized, single-track, multi-use trail opportunities to meet the growing demands and needs in Ouray County and the surrounding area. The plan will be consistent with the USFS Forest and other agency land use plans. It will include maps of conceptual trail locations, area descriptions, resource issues, trail design features, wildlife concerns and implementation/maintenance plans.				
#24 – SE	<b>Fox Run Regional Trail Planning</b>	<b>El Paso County</b>	<b>Planning</b>	<b>\$30,000.00</b>	<b>\$52,967.55</b>
<b>Description</b>	Develop a master plan for the construction of approximately three miles of the Fox Run Regional Trail in the northern part of El Paso County, near Monument. This segment will be a multi-use trail that completes a gap between the existing trail along Baptist Road and Fox Run Regional Park. Project tasks include hiring a consultant, community outreach, design, engineering and construction documents that will produce a set of plans ready for trail construction bids.				
#25 – NW	<b>Fruita Desert Cultural Surveys</b>	<b>City of Fruita</b>	<b>Planning</b>	<b>\$20,065.00</b>	<b>\$28,665.00</b>
<b>Description</b>	The North Fruita Desert Master Plan funded by CPW, recommended trail alignments and consideration of resource impacts on a general level. It was determined additional evaluation is required before construction is approved by the BLM, including biological, cultural and paleontological surveys. The city seeks funding to contract with consultants to conduct fieldwork and prepare reports analyzing impacts on resources from the proposed trail construction.				
#27 – NW	<b>Parachute Trail Plan</b>	<b>Town of Parachute</b>	<b>Planning</b>	<b>\$45,000.00</b>	<b>\$65,000.00</b>
<b>Description</b>	Parachute will plan and develop 70 acres of open space for outdoor recreational activities, including a non-motorized trail for hikers, bikers and equestrians. Parachute’s economic development strategy is driven by creating access to the area’s natural resources. The community understands this priority and supports the vision through its comprehensive plan that integrates the town’s land uses with the naturescape of the area.				



**COLORADO**  
**Parks and Wildlife**  
 Department of Natural Resources

**2020 Non-Motorized  
 Trail Grant Summaries**

<b>#28 – Statewide</b>	<b>Trails Training Enhancement</b>	<b>Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>\$45,000.00</b>	<b>\$60,371.00</b>
<b>Description</b>	VOC will take a region-specific approach to identifying and addressing trail training and volunteer capacity building needs. Activities include a pilot program to look at volunteer stewardship landscape in two of the four CPW regions and crew leader and crosscut saw training courses. VOC will also deliver its in-demand and reputable volunteer trail training statewide through the Outdoor Stewardship Institute (OSI).				





# COLORADO

## Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

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### MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 16th, 2019  
TO: Fletcher Jacobs, State Trails Program Manager  
FROM: Mark Leslie, Northeast Regional Manager  
SUBJECT: Wildlife Impacts Review, 2019 Non-Motorized Grant Cycle

The Northeast Region received ten trail project applications for wildlife impacts review. These applications were sent to CPW Area field staff (Area Wildlife Managers and District Wildlife Managers) for review and comment. The comments were then reviewed and discussed using the Wildlife Impacts Assessment Guidelines for the CPW Trails Program. Reviewers included Northeast Region Trails Coordinator Ben Plankis, Deputy Regional Manager Scott Roush, and Regional Manager Mark Leslie. In addition, Regional leadership emphasized the importance for CPW Area field staff to engage early in trail planning processes and grant application discussions to evaluate and address any possible wildlife concerns.

According to the 2019 SCORP, most of Colorado's population growth between 2000 and 2016 has occurred in the Denver Metro and North Central Regions. This region is expected to have the fastest population growth among regions in Colorado in the next 30 years. The number of trail users in the region is growing, as is the demand for new trails. This increase in trail use and new trail development has a cumulative negative impact on wildlife habitat. Increased trail use requires land managers to provide resources to maintain existing trails, actively enforce regulations and closures intended to protect wildlife, and conduct new trail planning and development in a broad landscape context.

Below is a synopsis of applications and their associated wildlife impacts:

#### Construction Grants:

##### #2 Phemister Trail

- No comment

##### #4 Tolland Ranch Trail

- No comment



#### #7 North Elk Creek

- Trail construction shall end prior to August 31st to avoid conflicts with hunters. COMBA should continue supporting and move forward with the weed mitigation, and willow planting efforts. A broader number of user groups should be included in these conversations, and since phase 1, no additional user groups have been invited to the conversations. Groups may include Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, Trout Unlimited, and Wild Connections. There could be some great partnerships, particularly for habitat improvement projects. The COMBA Outside 285 plan may be a great opportunity to get other user groups engaged. After this trail planning process finished it was decided that Staunton State Park would continue with plans to construct a parking lot on the interior of the park. This parking lot could allow more users to access the trails outlined in this project, and could have a significant impact on wildlife. COMBA has done a good job incorporating wildlife concerns, but this new parking lot could offset those efforts.

#### #8 Ward Station

- No comment

#### #9 Fall River

- No comment

#### #10 Twamore Farm

- No comment

#### #12 Virginia Canyon Mountain Park

- This project area is located within bighorn sheep overall, summer, winter, and severe winter ranges for the species. The bighorn sheep herd (S32) in the project area is recognized by CPW as a primary core population (Tier 1) that represent a population that has maintained the greatest genetic diversity, and persist in sizable numbers. For this reason, CPW considers this herd as a high priority for inventory, habitat protection and improvement, disease prevention, and research. The project area also is located in a migration corridor for bighorn sheep, with sheep moving east to west and vice versa throughout the year. Bighorn sheep migration in the area occurs throughout the year for breeding, access to and from summer ranges, as well as daily movements of sub herds. The project is also located within severe winter range habitat for bighorn sheep, which is very important habitat for survival during harsh winter conditions. The high use of recreation that the project is likely to produce is also concerning to CPW. Increased human activity can negatively affect bighorn sheep's historic patterns and movements, causing sheep to not inhabit the area. Dogs off leash are also a concern to sheep and other wildlife, putting undue stress on the animals by dogs chasing, harassing, and even killing wildlife. CPW is concerned that the project could negatively affect the bighorn

sheep herd, due to fragmentation of habitat and migration corridors, impacts to severe winter range habitat, and the effects from the presumed high recreation use of the trails may lead to bighorn sheep not using the area in the future. CPW staff has discussed mitigation that could potentially lead to less impacts on bighorn sheep, but do not believe would address the issue of sheep being pushed and not using the area during the warmer months when recreation would be at its peak. CPW recommends:

- Seasonal trail closures, to be determined by CPW to protect bighorn sheep during sensitive times of the year including, but not limited to severe winter conditions and lambing during the spring.
- The City of Idaho Springs to have a strict dog on leash policy in the park to prevent the harassment of bighorn sheep and other wildlife. Enforcement and education would be required by the city to prevent any conflicts.
- As identified in the application, The City proposed building a fence on the eastern boundary of the property to prevent issues with cattle. CPW recommends that any fencing constructed to be “wildlife friendly” to prevent entanglement and death of wildlife.
- Proper signage to educate the public on wildlife and respecting wildlife. Signage informing the public that bears and lions are in the area and information on how to prevent conflicts.
- All waste receptacles to be bear resistant, to prevent conflicts.

**#17 Bear Creek**

- No comment

**Maintenance Grants:**

**#16 Overland MBA**

- No comment

**# 14 Partnership for Stewardship**

- No comment



# COLORADO

## Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

Northwest Region Office  
711 Independent Ave.  
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P 970.255.6100

### MEMORANDUM

To: State Trails Committee

From: J.T. Romatzke  
Northwest Region Manager

Subject: 2020 Non-Motorized trail grant applications review and comments

Date 12/9/19

District and Area Wildlife Managers and staff have reviewed and provided comments on the Non-Motorized trail grants for applications proposing work in the Northwest Region. Below is a list by application number with a summary of our comments and concerns. Should more information be desired on any of our comments please do not hesitate to contact Randy Engle ([randy.engle@state.co.us](mailto:randy.engle@state.co.us) or 970 260 2379) as he has all the source data from the Area Managers. We hope that the reviewers and staff find the enclosed information useful in evaluating and scoring the grant applications.

3. Sutey Ranch: The Northwest Region supports this application. The proposed project aligns with the BLM's final environmental assessment on the parcel which was approved after a robust public process.

11. Trail Smart Sizing: The NW Region supports this project and appreciates the further development of a good working relationship between the Headwaters Trail Alliance and Area 9 staff. We look forward to an even more cooperative partnership moving forward. We understand the need for trails in this area and hope that by eliminating dead end trails that the remaining system loops will have fewer impacts on wildlife and help detour future social trail development. We highly encourage the complete decommissioning of non system routes and would ask for more patrol/enforcement for off route travel. We would like to participate in seasonal work planning and priority setting sessions for future years.

21. Iron Mountain: The NW Region is neutral on this grant. We have concerns that due to the long history of social trails and a lack of travel management that enforcement and buy in will be problematic. We encourage the planning process to address existing social trails and other land health issues to develop a plan that will address and correct these concerns. We also highly encourage the Town of Red Cliff to actively consult and continue to partner with Area staff as the process moves forward.



25. North Fruita Desert: The NW Region supports this application. Area 7 staff has been working closely with the BLM, City of Fruita and stakeholders on this project since 2014. Important species and habitats have been identified and strategies for impact minimization are in development. Area staff looks forward to continued work with BLM staff and other partners to ensure that the trails are located in optimal areas and that wildlife remains an integral part of the landscape into the future.

27. Parachute Trail Plan: The NW Region supports this grant as it will further outdoor recreational opportunities in the Parachute area. The project will provide access to hunters, hikers and other user groups to a large parcel of adjoining BLM property that is currently not accessible to the public. To minimize impacts to wildlife, Area 7 recommends that an ordinance should require dogs be leashed (preferred) or (at a minimum) under voice command and that the town provide secure (bear proof) trash receptacles at the parking lot. If additional trails are eventually built on the adjacent BLM property, it will be necessary to avoid sensitive big game winter areas through proper route planning and/or seasonal closures. Area 7 looks forward to being a partner in this planning process



## COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE

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### MEMORANDUM

TO: Fletcher Jacobs/Mark Leslie

FROM: Brett Ackerman  
SE Region Manager

SUBJECT: SE Region Wildlife Impact Summary

Field staff biologists have completed review of the 2020 non-motorized trail grant project applications located within the Southeast Region. There are no significant wildlife impacts for the projects listed below.

#### **UNIVERSAL COMMENTS FOR ALL PROJECT APPLICATIONS**

Applicants and all trail project workers/contractors should be "bear aware" in those areas where overnight camping is required for maintenance/construction activities to avoid creating any human/bear conflicts. Also, do not feed any wildlife and leave any young of the year where found.

#### **Construction**

#6–Daniel’s Pass Trail–Co Springs Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services - \$250,000

#### **Small Maintenance – Construction/Planning/Support**

#20–Salida RD Trail Maintenance-USFS Salida RD	- \$96,300
#22–Leadville Area Trail System Mgmt. Planning–CMC*	- \$23,805
#24–Fox Run Regional Trail Planning–El Paso County	- \$30,000

\*In regards to application #22, CPW does not/will not support utilizing the data collected as singular justification to close trails or dispersed camping areas currently used by hunters or anglers without further consultation with CPW.



# COLORADO

## Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

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December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019

### Colorado Parks and Wildlife State Trails Program- Non-Motorized Grant Cycle 2019-2020 Southwest Region Grant Application Review

There are a total of seven (7) Non-Motorized grant applications within the Southwest Region requesting funding from the State Trails Program for the 2019-2020 process. These applications were sent to the CPW Area Field Staff (Area Wildlife Managers and District Wildlife Managers) for review and comment. In addition, the comments were reviewed and discussed by SW Region Staff including Regional Manager, Cory Chick, Deputy Regional Manager, Heath Kehm, Regional Land Use Coordinator, Brian Magee, and Regional Trails Coordinator, Josh Stoudt.

The background information provided below is not intended to be comprehensive discussion on the best available science regarding trail development, trail use, and the subsequent impacts to wildlife. It is, rather, a brief overview of the wildlife management issues CPW Staff considers when evaluating the individual trail grant proposals with the intent to inform and educate the Statewide Trail Committee members. In addition, the individual grant comments and CPW Staff recommendations are detailed below.

#### **Background information on trail related impacts to wildlife**

Overall, the public and trail users are poorly informed on the potential impacts of non-motorized trails on wildlife, and how those impacts can manifest themselves into complex management issues for CPW. A recent study found that approximately 50% of recreationists felt that recreation was not having a negative effect on wildlife. Furthermore, recreationists tend to blame other recreation groups for adverse impacts to wildlife rather than themselves (Taylor and Knight 2005).

**Big Game winter habitats and migratory corridors** are known to be limiting factor on big game populations in western Colorado and other high mountain areas of the western United States (Sawyer et al. 2009, Bishop et al. 2009, Bartman et al. 1992). The protection and conservation of mule deer and elk winter range habitat is one of the foremost management objectives for CPW. These habitats are important for a variety of reasons, including:

1. Deer and elk tend to concentrate at lower elevations during winter months as snow accumulates at higher elevations.
2. Mule deer and elk typically display strong site fidelity to winter range, preferring to use the same areas year-after-year. CPW maps these areas as winter range, severe winter range and winter concentration areas for elk and deer.
3. Winter habitats for big game provide essential forage and thermal cover to help mule deer and elk minimize energy expenditure. Mule deer and elk are in a nutritional negative energy balance during the winter months, making energy conservation critical for calf and fawn survival and adult female reproductive fitness.



## **Trail Use Impacts**

Outdoor recreation associated with trail influence a variety of wildlife species in multiple ways. Impacts to wildlife from trail use are often negative and are associated with increased direct disturbance and displacement from optimal habitat due to the avoidance of human activities (Larson et al 2016). Elk and deer increase their daily activity levels and movements in the presence of mountain biking and hiking which reduces the time spent feeding and resting (Naylor et al 2009, Wisdom et al. 2004). This increased energy demand occurs simultaneously with decreased forage intake and displacement to areas with poorer quality forage. The net result is a decrease in body condition, which affects individual health, survival and reproduction (Bender et al 2008). Higher energy demand effectively decreases the carrying capacity of an area (Taylor and Knight 2003) and increases stress on individual animals. Many wildlife species also avoid areas of human disturbance completely, which decreases the amount of available habitat (Taylor and Knight 2003). Elk and deer generally do not become habituated to hiking or mountain biking (Wisdom et al. 2004, Wisdom et al 2018, Taylor and Knight 2003). Cumulatively, this leads to both immediate and long-term effects on individual animals and populations by decreasing the available energy for winter survival, growth, and reproduction, reducing the fitness of wildlife, and by displacing wildlife into marginal habitats (Miller et al 2001, Anderson 1995).

There is a large body of evidence documenting displacement of big game from roads and trails (including non motorized trails) and a decline in habitat effectiveness from big game as road and trail densities increase (Wisdom et al. 2018, Preisler et al. 2013, Sawyer et al., 2013, WAFWA 2013, Rogala et al. 2011, Wilber et al. 2008, Rowland et al. 2005, Rowland et al. 2000, Phillips and Alldredge 2000). The presence of a dog with a recreationist is likely to result in a greater area of negative influence from trail use, including amplified avoidance distances of mule deer movements (Miller et al 2001).

## **2019-2020 Non-Motorized Grant Comments**

The following summary are grant specific comments received from CPW Wildlife staff.

No Wildlife Comments were received on the following applications:

#01 Ohio Avenue Safe Walk Construction

#14 Partnership for Stewardship 2020-2022

#15 San Juan 14ers Trail Reconstruction

#18 Boggy Draw Trail Maintenance

#19 Project Raghorn



## Grant Comments

#5 Pagosa Regional Trail Connection- This project is for the construction a footbridge across the Village Lake dam adjacent to North Pagosa Boulevard and additional trail access. The proposal includes the construction of a new hard surface path to connect to existing routes in the project area.

The proposed trail site has already been developed and lies in an area of residential homes as well as a major roadway, thus the surrounding area and wildlife habitats have already been disturbed and altered by human development. Therefore, any additional or long-term impacts to wildlife from the trail are minimal.

The completion of the proposed project might enhance motor vehicle safety by providing a path for animals (deer) to cross the dam away from the roadway. CPW staff is encouraged to see the grant include two wildlife interpretive signs due to the numerous waterfowl and migratory birds that can be found in the area.

#23 Ridgway Area Trails Regional Trail Plan- The Ridgway area mountain bike club is looking to prepare a regional trail plan that will focus on the assessment of potential, non-motorized, single-track, multi-use trail opportunities in Ouray County and the surrounding area. It will be consistent with United State Forest Service and other involved agency's land use plans and will produce; maps of conceptual trail locations, area descriptions, resource issues, trail design features, wildlife concerns and implementation/maintenance plans.

CPW Area and Regional Staff appreciate the coordination and early discussions with the Ridgway Area Trails Organization about this proposal. CPW staff encourages continued communication during the development of the Regional Trails Plan especially within the wildlife section and during the public comment period.

CPW requests to have the most inclusive public comment process as possible. CPW encourages the project proponent to include a robust solicitation of interested stakeholders. CPW staff is available to brainstorm the possibility of conducting this type of outreach.

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