

COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE DIVISION

2023 - 2024 Snowmobile Program Grant

Gabrielle Smiley

5/26/2023

Recommendations

TOPIC	PREPARED BY	DATE
ACTION <u>X</u> ITEM	INFORMATION _____ ITEM	DRAFT _____ COPY
		FINAL <u>X</u> COPY

PURPOSE:

To request the State Recreational Trails Committee’s (the Committee) approval for the Snowmobile Grant Review and Ranking Subcommittee’s grant rankings and funding recommendations for the 2023-2024 Snowmobile Grants.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The State Trails Program, a statewide program within Colorado’s Parks and Wildlife Division (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 snowmobile grants.

Colorado’s Snowmobile Program

The Snowmobile Program is statutorily created, C.R.S. 33-14-101 through 33-14-119, and is funded through the sale of snowmobile registrations and use permits. It is estimated that over 34,000 vehicles will be registered in the 2023-2024 season. The price of an annual snowmobile registration is \$30.25. Funds are used to support the Statewide Snowmobile Grant and Grooming Programs as well as support for snowmobile registration operations. Funding is also made available to support safety, education and enforcement patrols. Funding is also provided to the Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CIAC). The program’s primary goal is to improve and enhance snowmobile recreation opportunities across the state while promoting the safe and responsible use of snowmobiles. The Snowmobile Program partners with the Colorado Snowmobile Association (CSA) who represents organized snowmobiling within the state. There are 35 snowmobile clubs under the CSA umbrella; of these 35 clubs, 27 of them participate in the state wide grooming program. Last year, \$796,748 was provided from the snowmobile recreation fund to grooming clubs to maintain and sign over 2700 miles of winter trails which are open to all winter sports enthusiasts. Grooming funds enable the clubs to cover the costs of fuel, insurance, equipment maintenance and repairs. Clubs that groom typically apply for grant funding to assist with the purchase of grooming equipment, construction of facilities to house equipment or trailhead improvements.

GRANT APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS:

Snowmobile Grant applications are sent out by e-mail and postal mail and are posted on the Department of Natural Resources, Colorado Parks & Wildlife Snowmobile Trails website. The grant program is publicized through newsletters, the State website, and e-mail information networks. Technical assistance for grant preparation is provided by the State Trails Coordinators to potential applicants requesting assistance.

The Parks and Wildlife Commission (the Commission) has authorized a subcommittee structure to oversee and organize the grant selection process. Subcommittee members are appointed for the purpose of reviewing and ranking grants and compiling funding recommendations for the Committee.

Snowmobile Grant Review and Ranking Process

The subcommittee conducts a fair and comprehensive review of all grant applications submitted before making recommendations to the Committee. All projects are evaluated and ranked against each other. The Snowmobile grant review and ranking procedure follows a three-tiered recommendation and approval process. Applications are scored and evaluated by the Snowmobile Grant Review and Ranking Subcommittee which ranks the applications in order of recommended funding priority. The ranked applications are passed to the State Trails Committee which evaluates the applications in ranked order and recommends funding strategies to the Commission. The Commission gives final approval of the projects recommended for funding. Public input is solicited as part of the grant review process. Public comment is accepted by e-mail, letter, and during public meetings.

Snowmobile Grant Review and Ranking Subcommittee

The Snowmobile Grant Review and Ranking Subcommittee is comprised of fourteen (14) scoring members including the subcommittee Chairperson who is a member of the State Trails Committee chosen by the Commission to represent snowmobile interests, and nine (9) snowmobile district representatives, one from each of the state's 9 designated snowmobile areas, who are appointed by the Chairperson; and four (4) Colorado Parks and Wildlife Regional Trail Coordinators.

Appendix A lists the members of the Snowmobile Subcommittee members and the area they represent.

2023-2024 Snowmobile Grant Applications

Snowmobile Grant applications were due April 21, 2023. Applications for twelve (12) eligible projects were received prior to the April 21st deadline, for a total grant request of \$1,088,332.00. Applicants made presentations to the Snowmobile Subcommittee on May 20, 2023 in person at the Residence Inn, Glenwood Springs, Colorado.

FUNDING:

Available funding for the 2023-2024 Snowmobile Grant cycle is \$536,208.00 from the following funding source:

Snowmobile Program Registration Funds	\$504,000.00
RTP Motorized Funds	\$ 32,208.00

DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY:

Considering the Trails’ Program’s Strategic Plan, the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and input from the Trails Program staff, the Snowmobile subcommittee recommends priority funding of:

Grant Category	Number of Grants	Proposed Funding
Snowmobile Grants	9	\$536,208.00

Appendix B is the summaries of the Snowmobile Capital grant applications with their rankings and recommended funding levels.

DIVISION RECOMMENDATION:

CPW staff and the Snowmobile Grant Review and Ranking Subcommittee have recommended the attached 2023-2024 Snowmobile Grants ranking and funding list (*Appendix C*) for the Committee’s review and recommendation. It is suggested that minor adjustments of project funding levels be permitted at the discretion of the CPW Director or his designee. Furthermore, it is recommended that any additional project money that is received be rolled over into the 2024-2025 snowmobile grant cycle, or into the 2024 - 2025 grooming season.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

“In accordance with section 33-11-106 and 33-14-106, Colorado Revised Statutes, I move that the State Recreational Trails Committee approve the 2023-2024 Snowmobile Grant ranking and funding recommendations as provided by the Snowmobile Grant Review and Ranking subcommittee. The Committee recommends moving this item to the Parks and Wildlife Commission for their approval. The Committee further recommends that minor adjustments of project funding levels be permitted at the discretion of the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Division to address changes in available funding amounts and funding amounts requested, provided the recommended projects all receive a substantial amount of the funding as otherwise recommended by this Committee.”

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE STATE RECREATIONAL TRAILS COMMITTEE

June 2, 2023
DATE



COLORADO
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Appendix A

Colorado Parks and Wildlife 2023-2024 Snowmobile Capital Grant Subcommittee Members

SNOWMOBILE SUB COMMITTEE MEMBER	DISTRICT REPRESENTATION
Adam Northrup	DISTRICT 1
Ron Spencer	DISTRICT 2
Dennis Lynton	DISTRICT 3
Vacant	DISTRICT 4
Ray Doble	DISTRICT 5
Ross Muzik	DISTRICT 6
Tom Carl	DISTRICT 7
Mark Hollingshead	DISTRICT 8
Ken Hilficker	DISTRICT 9
Randy Engle	CPW NORTHWEST REGION TRAILS COORDINATOR
Josh Stoudt	CPW SOUTHWEST REGION TRAILS COORDINATOR
Tappan Brown	CPW SOUTHEAST REGION TRAILS COORDINATOR
Luke Svare	CPW NORTHEAST REGION TRAILS COORDINATOR
Janelle Kukuk	SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR - Member of the State Trails Committee representing Snowmobile interest



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

2023-2024 Snowmobile Grant

Summaries

Appendix B

Project Number/Region	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Grant Type	Amount Requested	Total Project Cost
1-NW	Groomer Replacement	White River Snowmobile Club	Equipment	\$30,000.00	\$286,000.00
	Make up the difference between insurance payout & an equivalent groomer				
2-NW	Strategic Overhaul	Summit Snow Riderz	Maintenance	\$12,000.00	\$24,000.00
	Repairs and maintenance on 2011 Bison				
3-State Wide	Safety/Marketing Trailer	Colorado Snowmobile Association	Safety & Marketing	\$21,624.00	\$21,624.00
	Enclosed trailer for marketing and safety material				
4-NW	Groomer Purchase	Rifle Snowmobile Club	Equipment	\$70,000.00	\$270,000.00
	Groomer Purchase				
5-NW	Concrete Floor & Drainage System for Groomer Garage	Northwest Colorado Snowmobile Club	Maintenance	\$5,315.00	\$9,315.00
	Concrete Floor & Drainage system for groomer garage floor				
6-NW	Summer Maintenance	Northwest Colorado Snowmobile Club	Maintenance	\$14,893.00	\$24,893.00
	Maintenance on 2015 Bison				
7-SW	Groomer Purchase	Delta SnoKrusers	Equipment	150,000.00	\$270,000.00
	Purchase a 2021 Bison groomer or equivalent				
8-NW	Groomer Purchase	Grand Lake Trail Grooming	Equipment	\$175,000.00	\$295,000.00
	Purchase a Bison Stage 5 or equivalent				
9-NW	Groomer Purchase	North Fork Snowmobile Club	Equipment	\$57,676.00	\$77,676.00
	Will purchase Delta's 2012 BisonX				

COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE																							
SNOWMOBILE PROGRAM GRANTS																							
2023-2024 Score, Rank & Funding																							
App#	Grant Applicant	Project	Funding Request	DISTRICT 1 Adam Northup	District 2 Ron Spencer	DISTRICT 3 DENNIS LYNON	DISTRICT 4 VACANT	DISTRICT 5 Ray Doble	District 6 Ross Munzik	DISTRICT 7 Tom Carl	DISTRICT 8 Mark Hollingshead	DISTRICT 9 Ken Kifiker	CPW -NE REGION Tappan Brown	CPW-SE REGION Luke Svere	CPW-NW REGION Randy Engle	CPW-SW REGION Josh Stoudt	STC REPRESENTATIVE Janelle Kukuk	Total Score	Number of Scorers	AVERAGE SCORE	RANKING	Recommended Funding	FUNDING BALANCE 536,208.00
8	White River Snowmobile Club	Replacement Groomer	30,000.00	88	90	93		89	93	87	90	94	92	88	95	91	93	1183	13	91.00	1	30,000.00	506,508.00
9	Summit Snow Riderz	Maintenance	12,000.00	87	86	92		84	r	88	92	93	87	91	90	91	90	1071	12	89.25	2	12,000.00	494,508.00
12	CSA	Safety/Marketing Trailer	21,624.00	90	87	88		89	85	94	90	95	84	87	85	89	r	1063	12	88.58	3	21,624.00	472,884.00
5	Rifle Snowmobile Club	Groomer Purchase	70,000.00	84	85	84		85	91	85	88	90	85	89	85	88	92	1131	13	87.00	4	70,000.00	402,884.00
11	Northwest Coloado	Concrete Floor & Drainage System for Groomer	5,315.00	88	r	92		85	85	91	80	93	86	89	91	90	74	1044	12	87.00	5	5,315.00	397,569.00
10	Northwest Coloado	Summer Maintenance	14,893.00	87	r	92		85	85	89	72	94	86	90	92	90	78	1040	12	86.67	6	14,893.00	382,676.00
1	Delta SnoKrusers	Groomer Purchase	150,000.00	81	74	89		83	78	83	88	80	82	85	81	84	80	1068	13	82.15	7	150,000.00	232,676.00
2	Grand Lake Trail Grooming	Groomer Purchase	175,000.00	78	84	84		80	75	84	60	75	83	80	87	86	92	1048	13	80.62	8	175,000.00	57,676.00
3	Gunnison County Snow Trackers	Groomer Purchase	220,000.00	68	74	88		84	71	86	63	89	80	86	84	87	85	1045	13	80.38	9	0.00	57,676.00
7	North Routt Snow Riders	Groomer Purchase	214,500.00	72	76	77		83	71	82	78	80	80	81	82	83	85	1030	13	79.23	10	0.00	57,676.00
4	North Fork Snowmobile club	Groomer Purchase	75,000.00	66	70	67		82	84	82	83	80	76	85	82	80	70	1007	13	77.46	11	57,676.00	0.00
6	Silverton Snowmobile Club	Groomer Purchase	100,000.00	62	75	69		84	71	81	75	75	77	82	80	81	82	994	13	76.46	12	0.00	0.00
Total		1,088,332.00																				536,208.00	