



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 identify potential wildlife issues prior to the review by the subcommittees. Any wildlife concerns can then be resolved or will be considered as part of the grant evaluation process. These **Regional Wildlife Comments & Recommendations** are shared with the subcommittee (**Appendix A**).

Next, applications are evaluated by the OHV Grant Review and Ranking Subcommittee to score and rank the OHV competitive grant applications in order of their recommended funding priority. 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 of projects funded. This process invites public review and comment at four separate stages; upon submission, before the subcommittees, before the State Trails Committee and before the Commission.

### **Overview of the OHV Subcommittee's Trail Grant Review and Ranking Process**

The OHV Grant Review and Ranking Subcommittee is comprised of sixteen (16) scoring members:

- Eight (8) members, including the subcommittee chairperson, are representatives affiliated with OHV recreational interests. The chairperson nominates the seven (7) subcommittee members who are affiliated with OHV recreation;
- Three (3) subcommittee members are representatives of non-motorized recreational interests of which one is a non-motorized delegate from the Committee. The non-motorized delegate from the Committee nominates the two (2) subcommittee members who are affiliated with non-motorized recreation;
- One (1) subcommittee member represents multiple-use trail recreational interests and is nominated by the CPW director; and,
- Four (4) CPW motorized trail coordinators.

All nominees to the subcommittee, with the exception of the trail coordinators, are approved by the Committee and are subject to three-year term limits with the option of being reappointed to one additional three-year term. State and federal agencies are represented on an ex-officio basis by Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and CPW Trails Program staff. **Appendix B** lists the **OHV Subcommittee Members** and their affiliations.

The OHV Good Management Program Grants are considered first by the subcommittee. Each Good Management grant application is evaluated on its own merit. Public comment is received by the subcommittee on both the Good Management grants applications and the overall OHV Good Management program. The subcommittee then recommends programmatic funding for all of the Good Management crews which is submitted for the Committee's and the Commission's consideration.

Following the resolution of the Good Management Grants and program funding recommendation, the subcommittee then evaluates the competitive OHV grant applications. Those applications are evaluated, scored and ranked against each other. Grant scores are the average of all subcommittee member scores submitted, provided in **Appendix C, Scoring Grid**. Public input is solicited as part of that grant review process and all comments are distributed to the scoring subcommittee members prior to the review, ranking and funding recommendation process. Applicants that submit competitive OHV grant applications are invited to make a presentation to the subcommittee. Applicants made presentations to the OHV Subcommittee on March 6-8, 2024 and again, following those presentations, public comment is received.

The ranked OHV competitive grant applications are then submitted to the Committee for review, evaluation and finalization of funding recommendations for the Commission.

**2024-2025 Motorized (OHV) Trail Grant Applications Summary**

Applications for 76 eligible projects were received prior to the December 1, 2023 deadline; for a total funding request of **\$8,030,225**. Application Summaries are provided in **Appendix D**.

2024-2025 Funding Requests Received:

<b>Grant Category</b>	<b>Number of Grants</b>	<b>Requested Funding</b>
<i>Good OHV Management Grants</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>\$2,928,196</i>
<i>OHV Project Grants</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>\$5,102,029</i>
<b>Total Grants</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>\$8,030,225</b>

NOTE: Four project applications were withdrawn prior to the OHV Presentations meeting: (1) Application #7 – SFSP Government Creek - Competitive 2025 (\$225,000), (2) Application #16 – Silt Mesa ERMA Paleontologist Project 2025 (\$5,700), (3) Application #30 – CCMR Marshall Extension 2025 (\$81,436), (4) Application #49 – Supply & Equipment Grant 2024-25 (\$25,000). The applicants decided they didn’t feel they would have the ability to complete the project, as proposed.

Twenty-five of the 76 grant applications are seeking continued funding under the Good OHV Management Program.

Two applicants are seeking approval for Good Management Program participation:

#36 - Boulder Ranger District OHV Crew

#48 - Divide Heavy Maintenance Trail Crew

OHV Subcommittee discussed if these projects were eligible for Good Management Program participation and is recommending to keep them as competitive grant applications, at this time.

**FUNDING SOURCES**

For the 2024-2025 Motorized (OHV) trails grant cycle, program staff estimate the total amount available for funding to be \$6,433,868 from the following funding sources:

<b>Source of Funding</b>	<b>Dollars Available</b>
Off-Highway Vehicle Registration (OHV)	\$6,000,000
Recreational Trails Program – (RTP) <i>approx.</i>	\$ 433,868
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,433,868</b>

**DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY**

All OHV Grant Applications received for the 2024-2025 OHV grant cycle were posted on the Colorado Parks and Wildlife website for public review and comment. The web address is: <http://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/TrailsGrantsOHVApps.aspx>

Public comment regarding the OHV Project Proposals and the Good Management Grant Applications had to be submitted in writing by the close of business on Friday, February 2,

2024. CPW Region Wildlife Comments were accepted through February 6, 2024. Public Comment submitted by email were directed to the following web email address: [trails@state.co.us](mailto:trails@state.co.us)

Pursuant to Policy A-104, the Committee members serving on the OHV Subcommittee are:

- OHV Subcommittee Chair and Committee OHV designee – Heather Hormell
- State Trails Committee Non-motorized Trails designee – Jack Placchi

The OHV Subcommittee met on February 7-8, 2024 to discuss Good OHV Management (GM) applications and to begin competitive application discussions.

All competitive grant applications had the opportunity to make a presentation as part of the grant review process on March 6-7, 2024, and the final OHV Subcommittee project review was done on March 8, 2024. Public comment was taken during all OHV Subcommittee review meetings.

Scores from the subcommittee ranking process were submitted to the Trails Program offices or staff in Littleton by the end of business on Monday, March 18, 2024 to be eligible for inclusion in the final grant application review and ranking process.

**Appendix D - Project Summaries** with committee and wildlife and scoring comments.

**Appendix E - Basic Project List** with scoring results.

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

<b>Grant Category</b>	<b>Number of Grants</b>	<b>Proposed Funding</b>
<i>Good OHV Management Grants</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>\$2,891,696</i>
<i>OHV Project Grants</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>\$3,542,172</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>\$6,433,868</i>

**DIVISION RECOMMENDATION:**

For Committee to review and approve funding of the 2024-2025 OHV Projects, as recommended in Appendix D and Appendix E.

In addition to the considerations discussed above, it is requested that the Committee recommend the funding of 59 projects which amounts to \$6,433,868 and to fund additional projects in order of rank that scored a 70% or higher, as additional funding becomes available

**SUGGESTED MOTION:**

“In accordance with sections 33-11-106 and 33-14.5-106, Colorado Revised Statutes, I move that the State Recreational Trails Committee approve the scores and associated ranking results from the Committee’s OHV Grant Review and Ranking Subcommittee as presented for the 2024-2025 OHV grant applications, recommending funding 59 projects in the amount of \$6,433,868 and to fund additional projects in order of rank that scored a 70% or higher, as additional funding becomes available.