

Application form



NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION - PLANNING

PROJECT BASICS

Title

Type Construction Planning
 Maintenance Support

Phased project Yes No If yes, Phase # _____ of _____

Brief summary

Grant request	\$	Grant ratio ¹	%
Match	\$	Match ratio	%
Total	\$	Total	100 %

APPLICANT

Type Local County Federal Tribal
 Recreation and Metro Districts Non-Profit

Organization

Postal address

City State CO ZIP Code

General email UEI #

Lead contact Title

Telephone Email

Project manager Title

Telephone Email

PARTNER OR CO-SPONSOR

Organization N/A

Postal address

City State CO ZIP Code

Contact name Title

Telephone Email

¹ Grant ratio = grant request / total. Match ratio = match / total.

PROPERTY

Nearest town or city		County	
Latitude/Longitude		Congressional district	
Name of property owner			
Trail Corridor controlled by	<input type="checkbox"/> Fee simple	<input type="checkbox"/> Lease	<input type="checkbox"/> Easement
	<input type="checkbox"/> License	<input type="checkbox"/> ROW	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:

TRAIL

Uses	<input type="checkbox"/> Hiking, walking, running	<input type="checkbox"/> Biking	<input type="checkbox"/> Equestrian
E-bikes allowed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Snow sports (non-motorized)	<input type="checkbox"/> ADA Accessible
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:			
Estimate percentage by type (e.g.,) 50% hiking, etc.			
Surface	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural	<input type="checkbox"/> Crusher fines	<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:			
Size of new trailhead (sq. ft.)		Length of trail being planned	
Length of new trail construction ²		Length of trail maintenance	
Length of inter-connecting trail		Length of trail reroute	
Length of decommissioned trail		Length of restored trail	
Length of trail to be signed		Length of trail grooming	
Other:			
Estimated amount of paid crew hours:		Grant	Match:

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

On behalf of the applicant entity, I certify to the best of my knowledge that the information in this application is true and correct.

Authorized Representative

Signature		Date
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Name	Title
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² Length of trail – use miles, square feet, linear feet



To Whom it may Concern

The Grand Mesa Nordic Council board of directors supports this application for a Colorado Parks and Wildlife Non-motorized Planning Grant and recognizes that if the GMNC is awarded the grant, our organization has both financial and legal obligations to complete and support the project.

We also recognize that this project is a long-term investment in the trail system, and we will continue to support and maintain this infrastructure. We intend to continue renewing our permit with the U.S. Forest Service to manage these trails for the next 25 years and beyond.

Thank you,

Dan Tille

Grand Mesa Nordic Council Board of Directors President.

Criteria Questions



NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION - PLANNING

Organization

Project title

1. PROJECT NEED

15 points

- A. Give a detailed description of the project, including information such as trail system improvements, trail development, amenities, and other recreation opportunities.

- B. Describe the project's urgency and why it is being pursued at this time.

- C. Describe how issues such as existing trail system management, wildlife and natural resource conservation, new trail development, and long-term maintenance will be addressed during this process.
-

3. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

10 points

- A. Give a detailed description of who will oversee the planning process. Include any pertinent information such as survey needs, facilitation processes and consultant information.
- B. Outline any CPW State Trails funding received in the last five years and if the project(s) were completed on time, on budget and within scope. For applicants without prior State Trails funding, provide examples of similar grant funded projects. Include project title, year of award, grant amount, and grantor for each.
-

4. PLANNING

10 points

A. Discuss the planning process that identified this project as a priority.

B. List all approved internal master or outdoor recreation plans and/or any external area, regional, or statewide plans this project supports and describe the benefit.

8. BUDGET AND FUNDING

10 points

- A. Describe the source of match for the project and when it will be secured. Include in-kind donations and partner contributions.

- B. Describe any consequences if this funding application is unsuccessful (loss of partner funds, staff capacity, expiration of surveys, etc.).
-

Project Budget

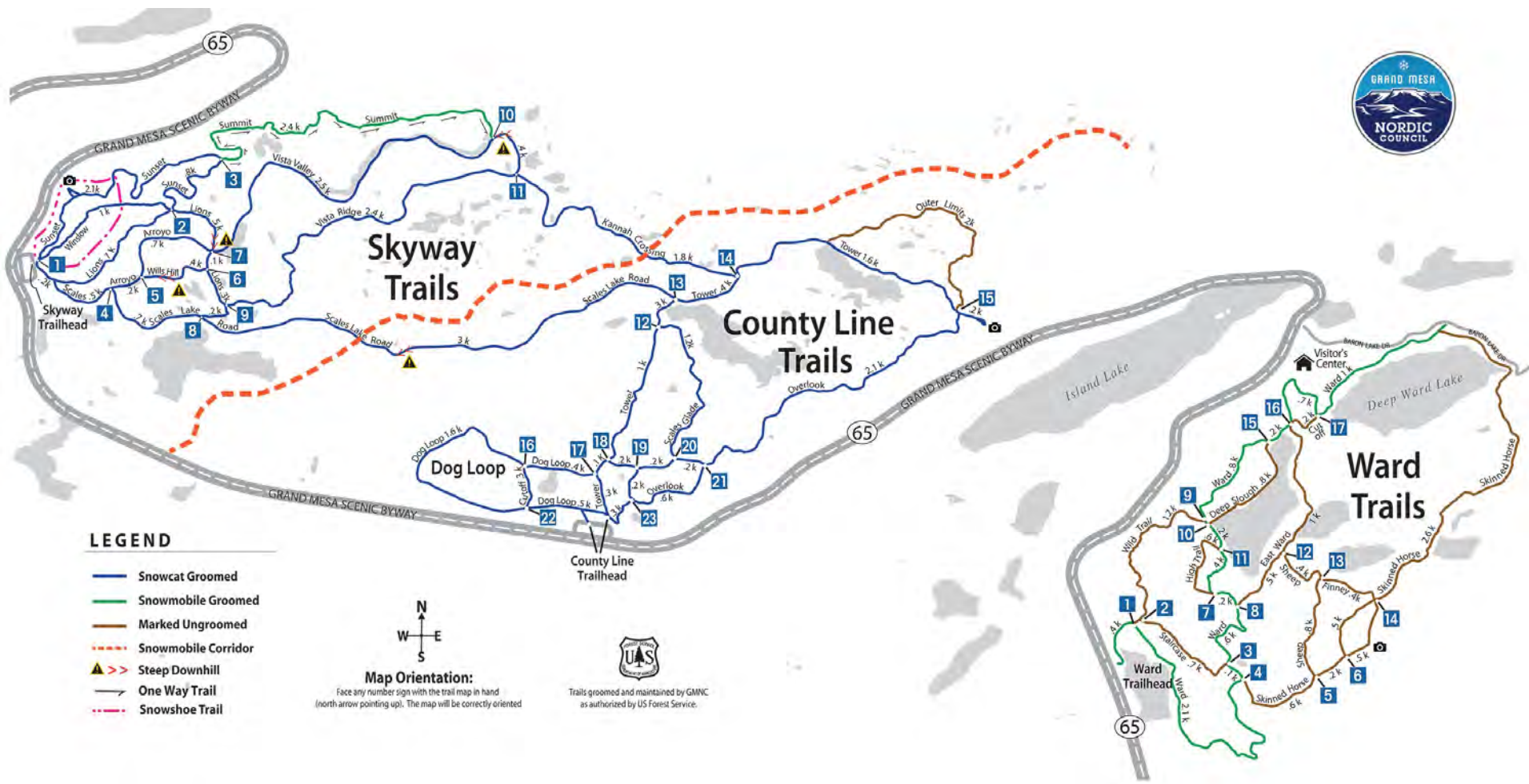


NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT

Project details				Match details			
CPW Grant #	Organization			Source of match	Type	Date available	Amount
	Grand Mesa Nordic Council			contribution from West Water Engineering	In-Kind	Jan-24	\$ 6,750.00
Project title	GMNC Trail Expansion Planning			contribution from GMNC	Cash	Jan-24	\$ 4,500.00
Grant Request (auto populates)	\$	45,000.00					
Local match	\$	11,250.00	Min. Match	\$	11,250.00		
Project Total	\$	56,250.00				Match Total	\$ 11,250.00

Description	Qty	Unit type	Cost per unit	Total	Type	CPW Grant	Local match	Balance
Contracted Services								
Biological & Environmental Resource surveys to determine potential impacts to wildlife and other biological resources, including federal/state listed threatened, endangered, and species of concern.	1	EA	\$ 10,550.00	\$ 10,550.00	Cash	\$ 10,550.00		\$ -
Cultural Resource Surveys to consider (as required by NEPA) the effects of the proposed trails on all aspects of the "human environment."	1	EA	\$ 5,700.00	\$ 5,700.00	Cash	\$ 5,700.00		\$ -
Biological Assessment, to include consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the Canada lynx for proposed trails outside the existing trail Skyway/County Line Trail systems	1	EA	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	Cash	\$ 6,000.00		\$ -
Environmental Assessment to ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)	1	EA	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 33,000.00	Both Cash and In-Kind	\$ 21,750.00	\$ 11,250.00	\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
Salary/Wages								
Executive director to manage the project	31.25	EA	\$ 32.00	\$ 1,000.00	Cash	\$ 1,000.00		\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
Materials/Supplies								
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
Additional Categories								
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
TOTAL				\$ 56,250.00		\$ 45,000.00	\$ 11,250.00	

Map of GMNC Trails as of spring 2023



LEGEND

- Snowcat Groomed
- Snowmobile Groomed
- Marked Ungroomed
- - - Snowmobile Corridor
- ▲ >> Steep Downhill
- One Way Trail
- · - · Snowshoe Trail



Map Orientation:

Face any number sign with the trail map in hand (north arrow pointing up). The map will be correctly oriented



Trails groomed and maintained by GMNC as authorized by US Forest Service.

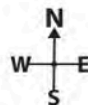
Map of trails test groomed April 2023

blue lines are test trails, numbers are distance in kilometers



FUTURE TRAIL OPTIONS

Combination of Snowmobile and Snowcat Groomed
Proceed with Caution



Map Orientation:
 Face any number sign with the trail map in hand (north arrow pointing up). The map will be correctly oriented

Proposed Test Trails

Due to the extreme snowpack, the GMNC is coordinating with the USFS to test out some possible future trails. Our intention is to not only provide additional terrain expansion but to create multiple "loop" options to enhance the user experience.

This is only a Test



Photos from test grooming done April, 2023



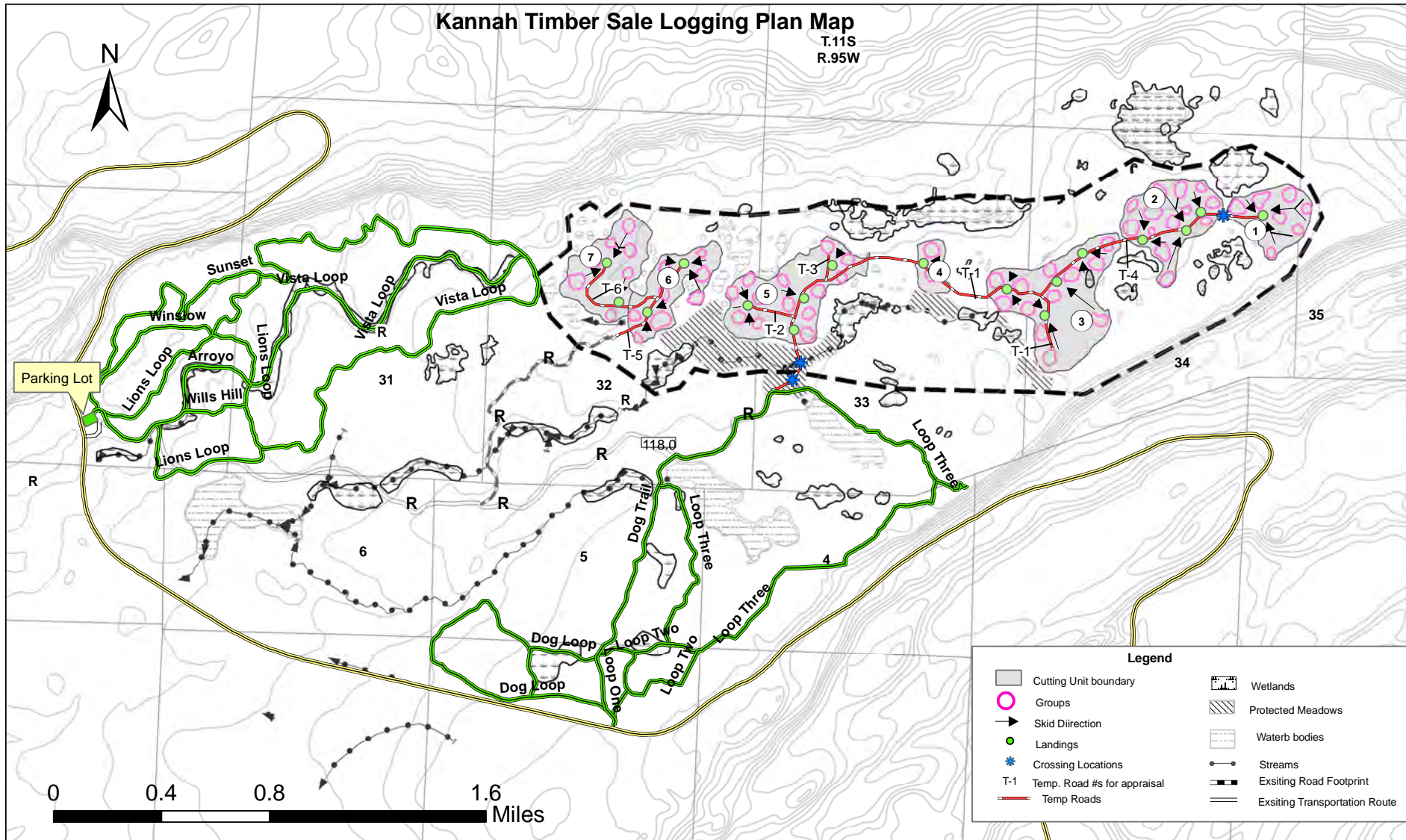
Map of generalized area for snowshoe trail placement

(potential trails shown in purple. Exact location TBD, in consultation with WestWater Engineering, also looking at extension of existing snowshoe trail at Skyway)





Map of logging roads (pink dashed lines) to be assessed as potential ski trails





File Code: 1560; 2350
Date: September 29, 2023

Randy Engle
Northwest Trail Coordinator
Colorado Parks and Wildlife
State Trails Program
13787 U.S. Highway 85 N.
Littleton, CO 80125

Dear Mr. Engle,

The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests (GMUG), Grand Valley Ranger District manages 550,000 acres of public lands, managing approximately 750 miles of trails for multiple uses. A portion of these trails are designated for non-motorized use, and unique and very popular subset are Nordic ski trails.

For over 30 years, the Grand Mesa Nordic Council (GMNC) and US Forest Service have partnered to manage a Nordic ski trail network on the Grand Mesa. This system is exceedingly popular, and draws winter enthusiasts from all over the west. The GMNC is interested in expanding the existing trail network to accommodate increased use, and to provide for a diversity of user experiences. While the Forest recognizes the desire for expansion, we do not have the capacity to conduct the necessary environmental analysis required as a prerequisite. I am appreciative and supportive of GMNC's desire to pursue this planning grant through Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or need further information at (970) 242-8211.

Sincerely,

SARA LINDBERG
Acting District Ranger

cc: William Edwards, Lacie Jurado





P.O. Box 20,000
Grand Junction, CO 81502-5033
(970) 248-6900
www.health.mesacounty.us

October 2, 2023

Randy Engle
Northwest Region Trails Coordinator
Colorado Parks and Wildlife
State Trails Program
13787 U.S. Highway 85 N.
Littleton, CO 80125

Dear Mr. Engle:

Mesa County Public Health (MCPH) is pleased to offer a letter of support to the Grand Mesa Nordic Council in their State Trails Planning Grant application. Our organization recognizes the need for high quality outdoor recreation experiences within Mesa County. We also understand the need for collaboration on such efforts and would like to assist in any ways possible, starting with this letter, but also with the support of our trail crew for any maintenance needs they may have.

As a county agency at the forefront of public health, we are increasing our commitment to the role that outdoor experiences play in quality of life for both locals and visitors alike. We believe that active lifestyles lead to a lifetime of good health while building important social connections. Well supported trail networks represent one of the most important opportunities for people from all walks of life to access the outdoors. With increased pressure on our public lands comes a need to improve systems that permit unique recreation activities. These improvements must incorporate an effort to minimize impacts on all natural resources. We feel that this planning initiative takes an important step towards achieving that balance while enhancing the work that has already been done.

The Grand Mesa Nordic trail system is an invaluable resource here in the Grand Valley for sustainable winter recreation that requires an updated planning effort to modernize the system. Funding from this program would offer our community the chance to do that, and we wholeheartedly support CPW to heavily consider funding this important advancement in sustainability.

Sincerely,



Todd Hollenbeck
Interim Executive Director

October 2, 2023

Delta County Administrative Office
Delta County Commissioners
560 Dodge Street
Delta, Colorado 81416

Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Trails Program
1313 Sherman Street, Room 618
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Members of the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Trails Program,

We express our enthusiastic support for the Grand Mesa Nordic Council's application for a Non-motorized Trail Grant on behalf of Delta County and the Delta County Commissioners. This application seeks funding for planning ski trail expansion and dedicated snowshoe trails, along with an initial environmental assessment to enhance and expand the Ward parking lot and increase parking facilities at County Line. These measures improve safety and accessibility to Grand Mesa's cherished family recreational areas.

Grand Mesa Nordic Council's trails are a vital part of Delta County, offering residents unique opportunities to connect with the natural beauty of Grand Mesa while promoting physical activity and outdoor engagement. Introducing dedicated snowshoe trails is a laudable initiative, expanding winter access to the National Forest and offering summer hiking paths for year-round outdoor enjoyment on our public lands.

The proposed enhancements and expansion serve both our growing community and the preservation of the trail system's natural essence. By averting overcrowding, we maintain Grand Mesa's pristine beauty and align with the values and goals of Delta County, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and the Delta County Recreation and Trails Master Plan.

In summary, the Grand Mesa Nordic Council's project is crucial for Delta County residents' well-being, in harmony with sustainable land management and outdoor recreation principles. We fully endorse their grant application and kindly request your favorable consideration.

Thank you for your time and commitment to enhancing our public lands and recreational opportunities.

Sincerely,



Wendell A. Koontz, Chair



September 26, 2023

To Whom it May Concern,

It is our distinct pleasure to support Grand Mesa Nordic Council (GMNC) in their pursuance of the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Non-motorized Trails Grant for trail expansion, and as a result increase the capacity and quality experience for all trail users.

As a supporter of youth outdoor education, Friends of Youth and Nature (FOYAN) feels strongly that expansion of the GMNC trail systems will greatly assist our mutual mission of providing safe, quality, recreational, and outdoor educational experiences on the Grand Mesa Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forest public lands.

Expansion of cross-country ski trails and snowshoe trails would ensure a quality winter wildlife educational experience for our youth. The public come to the GMNC trails for solitude, crystallin views, and healthy exercise. Often, our youth and other skiers/snowshoers are competing for the same trail space which can compromise the winter wonderland experience for all. Expansion of the existing trails would alleviate this congestion, especially near the trail heads, and offer more wildlife education opportunities for user groups like ours.

Thank you for consideration of the GMNC grant request to increase trail capacity for the GMNC trails. With more and more people moving to our western slope paradise, it just makes sense to plan a quality experience for all.

Sincerely,

Anita Evans, Chair of Friends of Youth and Nature

FRIENDS OF YOUTH AND NATURE
P.O. Box 634, Hotchkiss, Colorado 81419
friendsofyouthandnature@gmail.com 970-901-1459
www.friendsofyouthandnature.org

Document checklist



NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION – PLANNING OR SUPPORT

PROJECT DETAILS

Organization

Project title

DOCUMENTS

PRE-APPLICATION - SEPTEMBER

Document	Source	Submission format
<input type="checkbox"/> 1. Scope of work	Applicant's own	PDF
<input type="checkbox"/> 2. Project map	Applicant's own	PDF

FULL APPLICATION - OCTOBER

Document	Source	Submission format
<input type="checkbox"/> 3. Application form	CPW template	PDF
<input type="checkbox"/> 4. Timeline	CPW template	PDF
<input type="checkbox"/> 5. Budget	CPW template	Unprotected Excel file
<input type="checkbox"/> 6. Photographs & maps	Applicant's own	Merged PDF (5 pages max)
<input type="checkbox"/> 7. Letters of support	Various	Merged PDF (5 letters max)
<input type="checkbox"/> 8. Resolution	Applicant's own	Signed PDF

ADDITIONAL PROJECT INFORMATION

9. Required match funding secured (including cash match funds)

10. Conservation/Youth Corps or other organization will be used on the project.

Name of organization:

11. Volunteers will be utilized on the project

Name of organization: Grand Mesa Nordic Council