Non-Motorized Trails Stewardship Program

2023 PILOT PROGRAM APPLICANT INTEREST FORM

Submit this completed form to be combined with a Non-Motorized Maintenance Application to trails@state.co.us by October 3, 2023.

APPLICANT						
Туре	☐ Land Manager		□ Non-Profit			
Organization						
Postal address						
City			State	CO	ZIP Code	
Contact name						
Contact email					Phone	
FUNDING						
	· 2 4					
(max \$75,000)	for 2 - 4 person crews	\$				
(IIIax 3/3,000)		7				
	for 5-8 person crews	ċ				
(max \$150,000)	\$				
Match (min. 25	% of grant request)	\$				
		· ·				
Total		\$				

STEWARDSHIP ELIGIBILITY

Why is this program a good fit for your organization?

STEWARDSHIP WORK PLAN	
Describe the type of trail stewardship and the anticipated work plan your organization would p if funded by this opportunity.	erform

STEWARDSHIP CREW

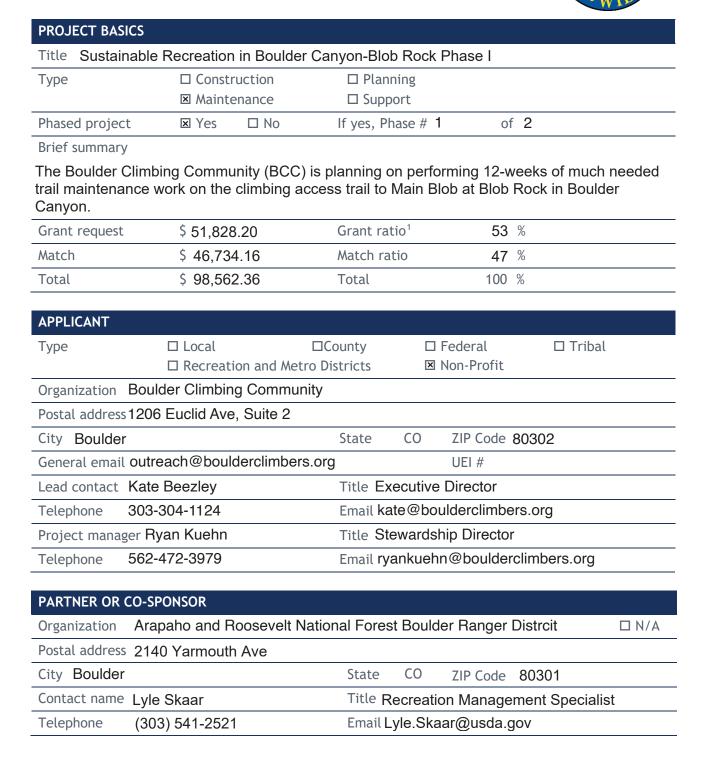
Describe your current ability to hire and support trail crews who perform non-motorized trail maintenance.

AREA OF IMPACT

Describe the importance of the trail system that would be positively impacted by this work to both the local community and the State of Colorado.

Application form

NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION - MAINTENANCE



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

PROPERTY								
Nearest town or city Boulder County Boulder								
Latitude/Longitude 40.0025, -105.38777 Congressional district 2								
Name of property owner Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forest Boulder Ranger District								
Trail Corridor controlled by ■ Fee simple □ Lease □ Easement								
☐ License ☐ ROW ☐ Other:								
TRAIL								
Uses ☑ Hiking, walking, running ☐ Biking ☐ Equestrian								
E-bikes allowed? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Snow sports (non-motorized) ☐ ADA Accessible								
☑ Other: Rock Climbing Area								
Estimate percentage by type (e.g.,) 50% hiking, etc.								
Surface ■ Natural □ Crusher fines □ Asphalt □ Concrete								
□ Other:								
Size of new trailhead (sq. ft.) Length of trail being planned								
Length of new trail construction ² Length of trail maintenance 1,231 ft								
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 981.24 Match: 1,418.76								
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 Ryan Kuehn Digitally signed by Ryan Kuehn Date: 2023.10.03 14:21:46 -06'00' Date 10/03/2023								
Name Ryan Kuehn Title Stewardship Director								

 $^{^{2}}$ Length of trail – use miles, square feet, linear feet



September 21, 2023 Colorado Parks and Wildlife State Trails Program 13787 US HWY 85 Littleton, CO 80125

Dear State Trails Committee,

Thank you for your dedication to stewarding Colorado parks and providing sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities for all Coloradans. We are proud to present the attached 2024 Boulder Climbing Community (BCC) proposal for a State Trails Maintenance Grant. The Boulder Climbing Community is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting and preserving rock climbing areas across the Front Range. We are applying for matching grant funds to accomplish trail maintenance at Blob Rock in Boulder Canyon.

Our 13 member Board of Directors are enthusiastic about supporting this project with staff time and previously secured financial resources. We are also committed to leveraging community and volunteer time to properly execute these critical restoration projects. Over the past ten years, the BCC has built the first community-based climber-led trail program in the country. We are nationally recognized for our trail work and have extensive experience fundraising for - and successfully completing - fee-for-service work. We have the expertise and capacity to successfully complete the projects discussed within this grant application.

As an organization, the Boulder Climbing Community sees the impacts on our shared landscapes and is committed to improving the user experience of climbers, hikers, anglers, and peak-baggers. Furthermore, we know these trail projects will protect and restore critical watersheds, reduce ecosystem fragmentation, and provide meaningful experiences for many.

The Boulder Climbing Community invites the state of Colorado to invest in these projects; together we can create a lasting positive impact for our most cherished and frequently accessed regions. Funding for these projects will ensure healthy ecosystems and sustainable recreation opportunities for all Coloradoans whether they go for a short hike or access the steepest climb. On behalf of the Boulder Climbing Community Board and staff, we thank you for reviewing and considering this timely request.

Sincerely,

Matthew Bentley, PhD

BCC Chair of Board of Directors

Timeline

NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION



PROJECT DETAILS

Organization Boulder Climbing Community

Project title Sustainable Recreation in Boulder Canyon-Blob Rock Phase I

TASK Mobilization, staffing, construction or maintenance elements, planning phases, etc.	Dates*	Dates	Dates	Dates	Dates	Dates	Dates
Planning and Design	Aug '23-Dec '23						
Maintenance Phase Prep (Seasonal wildlife closure dependent)	July '24-Augst '24						
BCC Trail Staff Maintenance Phase	Sept '24-Nov '24						
Administrative Close-out	Dec. 2024						

^{*}The timeline is an estimate of your project completion. Remember the project must be completed within 2.5 years of the award date. <u>Suggestion - use quarterly or multiple month time frames [Q2/XX; Jun-Sept XX].</u> Initial grant expiration date will be June 30th or December 31st, dependent upon assigned funding source.

Criteria Questions

NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION - MAINTENANCE

Organization Boulder Climbing Community

Project title Sustainable Recreation in Boulder Canyon-Blob Rock Phase I



A. Give a detailed description of the project, including information such as mileage or width of trail maintenance, re-route or restoration plans, and any other trail components/structures.

Blob Rock is an mportant recreational and wildlife resource in Boulder Canyon. Not only does it host a variety of climbs on its four major walls, but it also is an important nesting site for Golden Eagles and as a result is monitored by BCC's Raptor Monitoring program. The BCC will complete 12 weeks of trail maintenance work on the climbing access trail to Main Blob Rock in Boulder Canyon. Approximately 600 ft of trail is considered high priority as it follows the fall line and is showing heavy signs of use and erosion. Due to the steep angle of the hillside, building a more sustainable grade for the trail would involve a larger impact on the resource. Instead, BCC's trail program will utilize the abundant local stone to quarry and transport material to repair in place high priority worksites. BCC will construct stone staircases and retaining walls in order to make the climbing access trails sustainable at their steep grade. Local stone will be quarried and transported via high line rigging systems. Under BCC's trail staff supervision, volunteers will be able to engage with this project by learning how to quarry stone and be a part of the transportation and building phases.

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

Trail maintenance work at Blob Rock is being pursued because of its importance as a premier recreational area for the Front Range climbing community as well as its use for accessing seasonal raptor monitoring stations. In 2016, BCC inventoried 27 climbing areas in Boulder Canyon and gave each area an erosion score based off of an established rubric, focusing on usage level and damage level. All the climbing access trails at Blob Rock scored high in this inventory, only being surpassed by the Avalon Climbing Area and Upper Dream Canyon, which BCC completed maintenance projects on in 2022 and 2023.

C. Describe the current condition of the existing trail. Include how it arrived at its current condition.

Due to the steep topography of Boulder Canyon, the climbing access trails at Blob Rock climb steeply from the canyon floor to the base of the climbing walls, with an average grade of 32%. The few sections of tread where the grade is less than 10% and sustainable, are no more than 24" in width, which for a climbing access trail is sufficient. The sections of trail that require crucial trail maintenance are where the climbing access trail climbs towards the walls following the fall line, with most of these sections becoming gullied and eroded. Boulder Canyon climbing access trails were established as social trails that climbed towards the wall in the quickest way possible without thinking about how future use would impact the area. As a result many of the trails in Boulder Canyon are eroding and unsustainable for the increasing impact on the resource.

2. COMMUNITY BENEFIT

15 points

A. Describe the community that will benefit from this project. Include relevant demographic and economic data.

BCC's project seeks to engage and benefit both the local population and under served communities in the area. The population we aim to engage primarily consists of climbers, outdoor enthusiasts, and individuals interested in recreational activities. Boulder is a renowned destination for climbing and attracts climbers of various skill levels from different socio-economic backgrounds. Our project recognizes the importance of providing equal access to public lands and outdoor recreation opportunities. To recruit participants, we will focus on working with partner groups that we have created relationships with over the years to engage their community as well as the general public. By engaging and benefiting the Boulder community and under served populations, BCC aims to foster a sense of belonging, promote physical and mental well-being, and create a more equitable and inclusive climbing culture.

B. Outline any deficiencies or barriers to access this project would address or improve for the abovementioned community.

Historically, climbing has been a sport performed by elite, white males due to its initial expense and need for outdoor access not typically found in inner city areas. Over the last 5 years, there are various affinity organizations that have worked hard to break this norm and have developed community of climbers of different backgrounds Via this project, BCC will partner with affinity organizations to provide historically disenfranchised groups with a way of connecting with the outdoor environment by developing a deep respect and mutual admiration for stewardship work.

C. Estimate the number of people and/or types of user groups that will have access to recreational opportunities as a result of this project. Include methods for determining this estimate.

The primary user group that will benefit from this project are climbers as well as hikers. BCC estimates that between 2,000 and 3,000 climbers users access Blob Rock during its busy season (August-February). This data is collected from Mountain Project, an online database that functions as a digital guidebook for climbing areas worldwide. Mountain Project users are able to "tick" the routes they do via the app and this data is publicly available for local organization such as BCC to use for gathering data on use patterns in Boulder Canyon. BCC used Mountain Project data to view how many users climbed at Blob Rock from August 2021-present day. In addition, BCC completed a climbing specific trail project with Boulder County at Platt-Rogers Memorial Park in 2022 and since completion of the trail, user visits has consistently been 1,600 users per month during the busy summer season. This data was collected via trail counters. BCC expects that with a more sustainable climbing access trail. Blob Rock could see this same type of growth in recreational use.

3. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

10 points

A. Give a detailed description of who will oversee the trail work. Include who will perform the maintenance activities (staff, volunteers, conservation corps, contractors, etc.)

This BCC trail project will be overseen by the BCC Stewardship Director, who has been involved in all the planning and design work for this project. The Stewardship Director will oversee a 5 person trail crew which will include 1 field coordinator that will be the field manager for 100% of the project as well as 3-4 professional trail builders. The Stewardship Director will will manage the grant and create invoices and reports for CPW. Other BCC staff that will be involved will be the BCC Marketing Director and BCC Outreach Coordinator, both of whom will coordinate with corporate groups and other organizations to create volunteer opportunities. Volunteers will be an instrumental component of the project and BCC trail staff will be responsible for oversight and training of volunteers. BCC anticipated having between 1,000-2,000 volunteer labor hours during this project. Volunteers will be recruited from outdoor companies such as REI, Movement Climbing and Fitness, RAB Equipment and local outdoor groups such as Latino Outdoors and Cruxing in Color. Volunteers will have the unique experience of being able to be a part of every stage of the building process for this project, they will be able to quarry stone, transport it, and build structures alongside BCC staff.

In addition to the BCC trail staff and volunteers, a Rocky Mountain Conservancy (RMC) crew will work alongside BCC's staff to complete this project. BCC has partnered with RMC on every Boulder Canyon climbing access trail project since 2019 and is looking forward to utilizing RMC on this project as well as helping develop RMC crew members trail skill in intensive stone work.

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.

BCC received a CPW Non Motorized trails grant in 2022 for our Boulder Canyon Climbing Access Stabilization Project. These funds were used to complete two multi year climbing access projects 1) The Upper Dream Canyon trail project (2018-2022) and the Avalon Climbing Area trail project (2021-2023). Both projects were completed on time and within the approved budget. CPW Regional Trail Coordinator, Luke Svare, performed a final walk through at the end of August 2023.

4. PLANNING 10 points

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

Currently, the greatest need for sustainable climbing infrastructure on the Front Range is on USFS land. Nearby land management agencies such as Jefferson County Open Space, City of Boulder OSMP, and Boulder County have all begun to address the impact that the current rise in recreation, primarily climbing, has had on the environment, committing over \$2 million towards climbing access trail work in the last 9 years. To begin financial and environmentally sustainable trail maintenance work in Boulder Canyon, the BCC presented the the Boulder Canyon Climbing Access Stabilization Project (BCCASP) to the USFS in 2020. This spurred the designation of 5 miles of Boulder Canyon climbing access trails. BCC has completed the first two projects presented to the USFS in the BCCASP and will be beginning work on Blob Rock with an estimated 1/4 mile of trails accessing three walls needing repair.

In addition, the draft USFS Boulder Canyon Manegement Plan and the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan both identify these trails as priorities because the cumulative effects of development, roads, trails and increased human presence at a landscape scale on these larger and complext ecosystems necessitates "siginificant reductions...in environmental footprint."

- B. List all approved internal master our outdoor recreation plans and/or any external area, regional, or statewide plans this project supports.
- -1997 Revision of the Land and Resource Management Plan
- -Boulder Canyon Management Plan-Draft

A. Explain how the site will be maintained and monitored after the grant funded work is complete (operation and maintenance plans, future budgeting commitments, etc.)

USFS personnel and BCC staff will conduct site visits before, during and after the project's duration. Using matching photo points of the completed work zones, the BCC will document the completion of the work plans and effectiveness of the mitigation efforts. Project work metrics will be reported to USFS personnel detailing linear feet of trail improved, steps built, square footage of retaining structure, drainage features, and pertinent structures built as well as the square footage of area restored. USFS personnel, BCC staff, and volunteers will monitor the area to ensure user compliance and that restoration efforts have the desired effects. Further mitigation measures will be taken if necessary based on monitoring/evaluation.

The Boulder Climbing Community is dedicated and invested in seeing this project's implementation and long-term sustainable success. BCC has a fourteen year history of continued Boulder Canyon maintenance and volunteer involvement. Each year, BCC will dedicate their organization's capacity to host and lead at least one Adopt-a-Crag style volunteer maintenance day per site once this large scale enhancement project is completed.

B. Describe the best management practices that will be used to construct the trail to ensure that the trail and its amenities will be sustainable.

Through the work of BCC's Trail Program, which has operated as a 5-person professional trail crew since 2014, BCC has developed trail design standards that take into consideration the challenging characteristics of working in climbing areas. These standards include repairing in place the current trail alignment using durable stone structures when a reroute is not feasible. utilizing rigging and high-line systems to transport material that minimize the impact of the trail work on the surrounding area, protecting local vegetation by constructing structures that prevent erosion, using locally sourced material that blends into the environment, and decommissioning and restoring old user trails to their natural state. The proposed project will require a lot of repair in place of the current alignment due to the steep nature of the area preventing a suitable reroute to be constructed. Work will consist of building large sections of stone staircases that will connect talus fields where the crew can create a more sustainable trail surface. There are various pockets of talus which BCC will use to quarry stone from and then transport via high-line rigging systems to the worksites. BCC will utilize volunteer labor and a local conservation corps crew to quarry and stage this stone ahead of the project start date so that when our trail crew starts the project, there will be plenty of building material. Due to the use of stone as the primary building material, the Blob Rock trail will not need to be maintained often over the following years. Utlizing photo data from previous worksites in Boulder Canyon, we have found that the stone trails we have constructed achieve their intended purpose of preventing erosion in the trail corridor and believe this will also be the case at Blob Rock.

6. WILDLIFE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

15 points

A. Describe how potential impacts to wildlife and natural resources were evaluated during the project scoping phase (using 'Planning Trails with Wildlife in Mind', mapping tools, etc.). Include any positive impacts this work will showcase.

The Blob Rock climbing area is a known nesting site for Golden Eagles. While the trail and trail work do not affect Golden Eagles, climbers scaling the cliffs in vicinity to the nest does and as a result Blob Rock is closed seasonal from Feb. 1st to July 31st. Due to its south facing aspect, trail work in this area will be suitable during the colder months and is scheduled to be conducted in the Fall of 2024, well outside of the closure season. Blob Rock is an important site for BCC's Raptor Monitoring program, as our volunteers are able to access various vantage points to monitor four different nesting sites. By performing trail maintenance on these climbing access trails, volunteers will be able to better access their monitoring sites.

B. Describe any wildlife and natural resources issues raised by CPW staff during the application consultation.

There have been no issues raised by CPW staff.

C. Explain how potential wildlife and natural resource impacts will be avoided, minimized, and/or mitigated (trail realignment, seasonal closures (include dates), signage, gates, game cameras, etc.)

The entire Blob Rock climbing area is closed seasonally from Feb.1st to July 31st for Golden Eagle nesting. BCC is in charge of posting closure signs at various trail heads in the canyon and also monitors wildlife cameras to make sure no infractions in the climbing areas occur. Trail work for this project will be conducted in the Fall of 2024, well outside the closure season. On occasion, via volunteer monitoring, Blob Rock is identified as not being a nesting site for the season and is reopened earlier than July 31st. If this occurs in 2024, BCC will begin working at Blob Rock earlier with a youth corps crew.

7. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

15 points

A. Outline public engagement activities for this project (public meetings, comment periods, surveys, etc.)

In April 2023, BCC held a townhall meeting at Neptune Mountaineering to present our 5 year strategic plan to the community and have been presenting the plan at monthly tableing events across the Front Range. This plan showcased our upcoming trail projects including our plans for working at Blob Rock. BCC is also planning on sending out a member survey this winter which will allow our community to provide feedback on our programs and help us prioritize future program goals.

B. Describe any partnerships that will ensure the project's success (public agencies, conservation or recreation groups, local businesses, etc.)

The BCC will be partnering with the Arapaho & Roosevelt National Forest for the Blob Rock project. The Forest will provide a 6-person Rocky Mountain Conservancy Conservation Corps crew. BCC has worked with RMC on previous Boulder Canyon projects and looks forward to continuing that partnership. In addition to our trail partners, BCC will host various corporate groups and local affinity groups for stewardship days. BCC's stewardship dayss are vital to the overall ability of BCC to achieve its mission and incorporate the community into our work. These community-building events are opportunities to educate the general population on the BCC's core values, including Leave No Trace principles, creating safe spaces for all, and mitigation of human impacts that accelerate climate change. Community stewardship days are an essential element to BCC's core principles as they address concerns around environmental sustainability and serve as an opportunity to educate and build a much larger diverse, inclusive community.

C. Describe how potential opposition to this project or its implementation will be identified, addressed and managed.

The BCC has been advertising their future work plans at various businesses through out 2023 and has received no opposition for the trail work to be conducted at Blob Rock. If opposition did occur, the BCC would meet with the opposing groups to understand why they are against trail maintenance at Blob Rock. The BCC has approximately 5 miles of climbing access trails in Boulder Canyon that we want to perform maintenance on so if Blob Rock was not a viable project for 2024, we would look to pivot towards another Boulder Canyon trail project.

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.

The BCC board has dedicated tremendous resources to this project via staff and volunteer time. In addition to funds provided by BCC, we have secured two years of funding via a National Forest Foundation MAP grant. The grant total is for \$30,000, \$15,000 of which is available for the 2024 trail season. BCC has also secured \$4,471 from the Access Fund Climbing Conservation grant. BCC will also receive \$30,000 in-kind from the USFS in the form of an RMC conservation corps crew and USFS staff time. BCC has also received yearly grants from Athletic Brewing, ranging from \$10,000-\$17,000 and expects to receive some form of funding again in 2024.

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

If funds are not secured from CPW, BCC will work with other grant organizations to secure as much as possible. Without support from CPW, the BCC will have to scale down the number of weeks worked on this project. This will mean that the project will get drawn out into several years and will delay work on other high need projects identified in our 5 year plan. As our trail programs scope of work increases year to year, we have found that applying for larger multi year grants is the best approach for BCC as the alternative is applying for 10-20 smaller grants (\$1,000-\$5,000 range) which takes up a large amount of limited staff administrative time.

Federal Environmental Form and Land Manager Approval Only to be completed if all or part of the project is located on federal land

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

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Sustainable Recreation in Boulder Canvon

Project

Sponsor

Arapaho & Roosevelt NF- Boulder Ranger District

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.

Title of document: 1997 Revision of the Land and Resource Management Plan

Date of document: 1997

3. A decision has been issued as part of the NEPA environmental review process.

Title of document: Boulder Canyon Climbing Access Trails

Date of document: 6/25/2021

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.

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

Decision Memo: https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/arp/?project=58608

Name: Lyle Skaar

Phone number: 303-542-2521

Email: Lyle.Skaar@usda.gov

4. The next planning process that may affect this project is planned for N/A.

Land Manager's Name:

Rebecca Stokes

Land Manager's Title

Deputy District Ranger

Land Manager's Signature:

REBECCA STOKES Digitally signed by REBECCA STOKES Date: 2023.10.03 09:23:03 -06'00'

COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE

Project Budget



N-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT

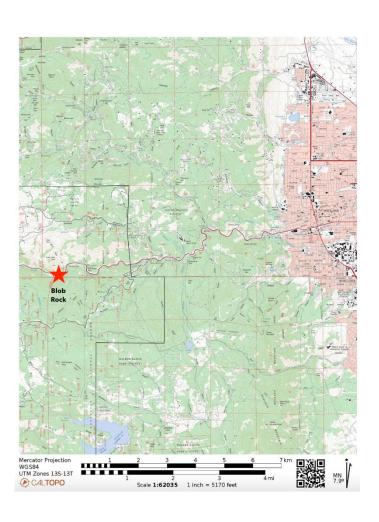
Project details						Match details				
CPW Grant #						Source of match	Type	Date available		Amount
Organization	Boulder Climbing Community					Access Fund Climbing Conservation Grant	Cash	Oct-23	\$	4,471.00
Project title	Sustainable Recreation in Boulder Canyon-Blob Rock Phase I					National Forest Foundation MAP Grant	Cash	Oct-23	\$	15,000.00
Grant Request (auto populates)	\$	51,828.20				USFS	In-Kind	Jun-24	\$	27,263.16
Local match	\$	46,734.16	Min. Match	\$	12,957.05					
Project Total	\$ 98,562.36					Match Total \$			46,734.16	

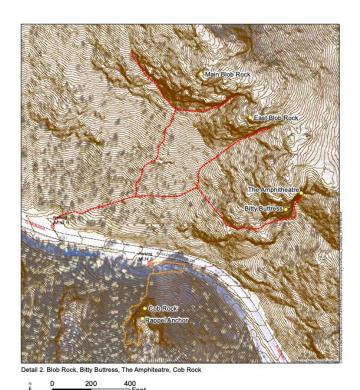
Description	Qty	Unit type	Cost per unit	Total	Type	CPW Grant	Local match	Balance
Contracted Services								
Rocky Mountain Conservancy (6-person crew)	20	days	\$ 1,285.71	\$ 25,714.20	In-Kind	\$ -	\$ 25,714.20	\$
				\$ -				\$
Salary/Wages								
BCC Stewardship Director	480	hrs	\$ 40.59	\$ 19,483.20	Cash	\$ 15,892.51	\$ 3,590.69	\$
BCC Trails Field Manager	480	hrs	\$ 31.44	\$ 15,091.20	Cash	\$ 11,016.58	\$ 4,074.62	\$
BCC Trails Level II Crew Member	480	hrs	\$ 27.01	\$ 12,964.80	Cash	\$ 7,574.31	\$ 5,390.49	\$
BCC Trails Level I Crew Member (x2)	960	hrs	\$ 24.75	\$ 23,760.00	Cash	\$ 17,345	\$ 6,415.20	\$
USFS Recreation Program Manager Admin	4	days	\$ 387.24	\$ 1,548.96	In-Kind		\$ 1,548.96	\$
				\$ -				\$
				\$ -				\$
Materials/Supplies								
				\$ -				\$
Additional Categories	Additional Categories							
				\$ -				\$
TOTAL				\$ 98,562.36		\$ 51,828.20	\$ 46,734.16	

Photos and Maps

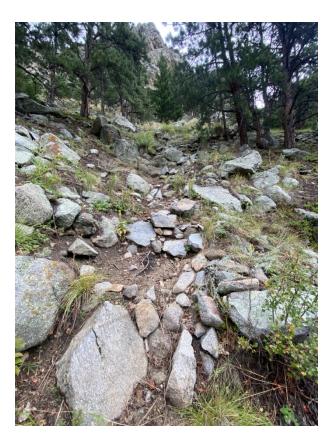


5-ft contours 2013 airphoto Printed Date: 10/19/2016



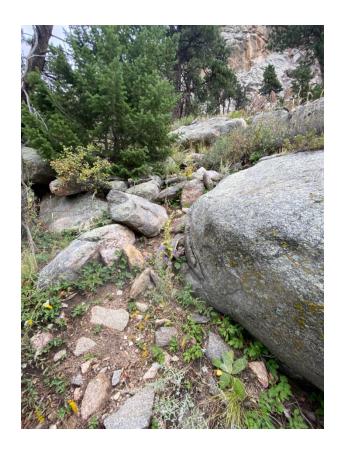


Photos and Maps

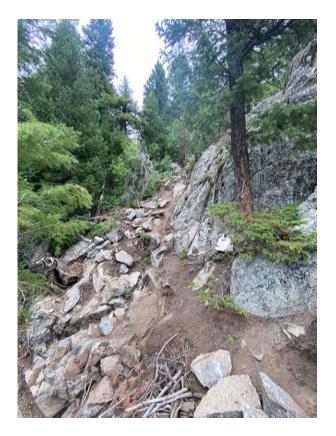


Left: Much of the Main Blob Rock access trail follows fall line and is eroded and gullied

Right: Utilizing the abundant stone nearby and quarrying it, BCC staff will construct staircases to gain grade while keeping the trail in its current



Photos and Maps







Above: Before and after of the portion of Upper Dream Canyon constructed in 2022 via CPW funds.

Left: Volunteers helping construct a large retaining wall at Avalon in 2022.

Forest Service **Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National** Grassland

2140 Yarmouth Ave. Boulder, CO 80301 970-295-6600 TDD: 970-295-6794

Fax: 970-295-6696

File Code: 2300

> September 29, 2023 Date:

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Trails Program 13787 US Highway 85 N Littleton, CO 80125

Dear State Trails Review Committee,

I am writing in support of the Boulder Climbing Community's (BCC) grant application for the Colorado Parks and Wildlife non-motorized trail grant for trail reconstruction within the Boulder Ranger District of the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland.

Boulder Climbing Community has been an important partner with the Boulder Ranger District in implementing a component of the Forest Service's mission to sustain and enhance outdoor recreation opportunities. Starting in 2016, the Boulder Ranger District partnered with BCC to inventory twentyseven climbing sites in priority areas. Since then, a variety of restoration projects have been implemented in partnership with BCC to protect natural resources and recreation access in Boulder Canyon. In 2021, the USFS formally added five miles of climbing access trails in Boulder Canyon to the National Forest Trails Transportation system.

Boulder Climbing Community has continued to demonstrate their capacity to partner with the Boulder Ranger District to achieve resource protection throughout the Boulder Canyon climbing area. In addition to their work on trails, BCC continues to be a valuable partner in protecting Golden Eagle nesting habitat in the Blob Rock area, providing monitoring of nesting locations and posting signage educating climbers on the importance of the seasonal nesting closure in this location. Due to the complex land ownership within Boulder Canyon, this trail will require a land survey to delineate land ownership prior to implementation, though I support the efforts of BCC here in their multifaceted stewardship approach. The award of this grant would allow BCC to partner with the Boulder Ranger District to sustain recreational opportunities, educate visitors, protect wildlife and wildlife habitat, and maintain public access.

Thank you for your consideration of Boulder Climbing Community's grant application. If you have any questions, please direct them to Matt Henry, Boulder District Recreation Program Manager at 303-541-2510, or matthew.henry@usda.gov.

Sincerely,

DEPUTY DISTRICT RANGER





Document checklist

NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION - CONSTRUCTION OR MAINTENANCE



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Organization Boulder Climbing Community

Org	anız	ation Boulder Climbing Co	ommunity							
Pro	ject	title Sustainable Recreat	tion in Boulder Canyon-Blob	Rock Phase I						
DO	CUM	ENTS								
		PLICATION - SEPTEMBER								
Doc	ume	ent	Source	Submission format						
\boxtimes	1.	Scope of work	Applicant's own	PDF						
\boxtimes	2.	Project map	Applicant's own	PDF						
FUL	L A	PPLICATION - OCTOBER								
Doc	ume	ent	Source	Submission format						
\boxtimes	3.	Application form	CPW template	PDF						
\boxtimes	4.	Timeline	CPW template PDF							
\boxtimes	5.	Budget	CPW template	Unprotected Excel file						
\boxtimes	6.	Photographs & maps	Applicant's own	Merged PDF (5 pages max)						
\boxtimes	7.	Letters of support	Various	Merged PDF (5 letters max)						
\boxtimes	8.	Resolution	Applicant's own	Signed PDF						
\boxtimes	9.	Environmental forms	CPW Template	Signed PDF						
X	10.	Formal EA or NEPA*	Federal Template	Web link or PDF						
ADI	DITIO	DNAL PROJECT INFORMATIO	N							
\boxtimes	11.	11. Required match funding secured (including cash match funds)								
	12. Construction projects have been evaluated for permits and, if required, permits obtained.									
\times	13.	Project area is owned by a be open to the public for at		easement that designates the area						
\boxtimes	14. Conservation/Youth Corps or other organization will be used on the project. Name of organization: Rocky Mountain Conservancy									
\boxtimes	15.	Volunteers will be utilized								
	Name of organization: Various organizations									

^{*}Must be completed prior to application presentations in January.