



# COLORADO

## Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

Southeast Regional Office  
4255 Sinton Road  
Colorado Springs, CO 80907  
P 719.227.5200

### MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 1, 2023

TO: Fletcher Jacobs, State Trails Program

FROM: Frank McGee, Southeast Regional Manager

Subject: Wildlife Impact Review, 2024 Non-Motorized Trail Grant Cycle

There are a total of thirteen (13) non-motorized grant applications within the Southeast Region requesting funding from the State Trails Program for the 2024 grant cycle process. The applications by category include: three (3) planning, one (1) support, two (2) construction, five (5) maintenance, and two (2) Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) applications. There are an additional two (2) statewide non-motorized grant applications. All applications were distributed to Colorado Parks and Wildlife SE Area Field Staff (Area Wildlife Managers, District Wildlife Managers, and Biologists) for review. Comments were reviewed by Southeast Region Manager Frank McGee, Deputy Region Manager Mitch Martin, and compiled by SE Regional Trails Coordinator Tappan Brown. Below is a list by application type and name with a summary of comments and concerns.

### Southeast Non-Motorized Planning Grant Applications

- Blodgett Peak NEPA Planning
  - Recommend special consideration for Bighorn Sheep lambing area and migration corridors. Seasonal closure consideration for Bighorn Sheep lambing season for any future development.
- Cucharas River Trail Planning
  - Recommend avoiding/minimizing trail development within the riparian area.
- Wormhole Loop Trail Expansion Planning
  - No comments received.





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### **Southeast Non-Motorized Support Grant Applications**

- Salida to Leadville Stage and Rail Support
  - Recommend education focus on Granite Bighorn Sheep herd and consider minimizing use in the Kolb to Clear Creek section during lambing season.

### **Southeast Non-Motorized Construction Grant Applications**

- Blodgett Open Space Development
  - No significant wildlife concerns were identified.
- Palmer Lake Creekside Trail Expansion
  - No significant wildlife concerns were identified.

### **Southeast Non-Motorized Maintenance Grant Applications**

- Devil's Playground Reroute
  - Recommend effective closure and reclamation of old trail alignment to minimize split use in the area.
- Burmac Trailhead Transformation
  - Request reroute work be completed prior to big-game hunting season. Recommend effective closure and reclamation of old trail alignment to minimize split use in the area.
- Leadville Ranger District Trail Crew and Pine Creek Trail Crib Wall
  - Request trail crews do not clear trails with chainsaws during big-game hunting season. Recommend minimizing trail work in the high-basin's during big-game hunting seasons.
- Mt. Shavano Trail Reconstruction
  - Recommend effective closure and reclamation of old trail alignment to minimize split use in the area. Recommend additional education to users on impacts to sensitive alpine ecosystems and high-alpine wildlife from human recreational use.
- Oil Well Flats
  - Recommend minimizing trail work during big-game hunting seasons.

### **Southeast Non-Motorized LWCF Grant Applications**

- Fishers Canyon Open Space Development
  - No comments received.
- Greenhorn Meadows Park Revitalization
  - Recommend avoiding/minimizing trail development within the riparian area.



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### **Statewide Non-Motorized Grant Applications**

- CDTC Colorado Regional Representative Support
  - No significant wildlife concerns were identified.
- CDT Maintenance and Stewardship
  - No significant wildlife concerns were identified.