



**2023-2024**  
**Off-Highway Vehicle Program**  
**State Trail Grant Application**

<b>Name of Project:</b> Calico North Trail Project		<b>Date of Application:</b> 11/1/2022
<i>(Please limit the project name to 5 words or less)</i>		
<b>Total Project Cost:</b> \$127,000.00	<b>Grant Request:</b> \$85,000.00	
<i>(round off to the nearest \$1)</i>	<i>Amount Requested (round off to the nearest \$1) must match the Project Budget Form.</i>	
<b>PROJECT SPONSOR</b> (Name and Address for entity legally responsible for project)		
Organization Name: San Juan National Forest, Dolores Ranger District		
Mailing Address: 29211 Hwy 184, Dolores, CO 81323		
		Fax: NA
Telephone: 970 882 6843	Email: thomas.b.rice@usda.gov	

OFFICIAL USE ONLY – DUNS # (IF REQUIRED):

<b>PROJECT CONTACT</b> This is the person with day-to-day responsibility for the managing the project, ensuring the contract scope of work will be fulfilled. Please notify us if <i>Project Contact</i> changes.		
Name: Tom Rice		Title: Recreation Staff Officer
Mailing Address: 29211 Hwy 184, Dolores, CO 81323		
Telephone: 970 882 6843	Fax: NA	Email: thomas.b.rice@usda.gov
		Is this the primary contact for this grant: X YES NO

<b>PROJECT CLOSE-OUT CONTACT</b> This is the person responsible for submitting receipts for project spending and close-out. Please notify us if <i>Project Contact</i> changes.		
Name: Tom Rice		Title: Recreation Staff Officer
Mailing Address: 29211 Hwy 184, Dolores, CO 81323		
Telephone: 970 882 6843	Fax: NA	Email: thomas.b.rice@usda.gov

<b>GRANTS &amp; AGREEMENTS SPECIALIST (USFS only) or BUDGET CONTACT (BLM only)</b>		
Name: Rebecca Cuthbertson		Title: G and A Specialist
Mailing Address: 1671 Cole Blvd., Lakewood, CO 80401 (note that this contact will likely change – contact Tom Rice for more info.)		
Telephone: 970 275 8040	Fax: NA	Email: rebecca.cuthbertson@usda.gov

SV.A-05

<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	
Nearest Town or City: Rico, CO	
County(ies): Dolores County	
Township/Range/Section: multiple	
State Senate District #: 6	
State Representative District #: 58 and 59	
<b>LAND OWNERSHIP</b>	
1. Provide the name/s of the property owners:	
2. The trail corridor is controlled by: <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Simple <input type="checkbox"/> Lease <input type="checkbox"/> Easement <input type="checkbox"/> License <input type="checkbox"/> Right-of-Way <input type="checkbox"/> Land Acquisition Ownership to be obtained <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (explain): Public Lands_	
<b>TRAIL SYSTEM INFORMATION</b> (List the number of miles for each type of OHV trail in your area)	
Miles of Singletrack: <u>120</u>	Miles of 50" or less: <u>77.3</u> Miles of Full-sized: <u>7.5</u>
<b>TRAIL USER INFORMATION</b> (Please check all that apply to the work planned for this project)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All-Terrain Vehicle	<input type="checkbox"/> Side x Side <input type="checkbox"/> Full Sized 4X4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motorcycling	<input type="checkbox"/> Four-Wheeling <input type="checkbox"/> Accessible Access
<b>PROJECT INFORMATION</b> (Please check all activities that apply to this project.) Include detailed information for each in the Project Scope of Work.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trail Maintenance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Travel Plan Implementation
<input type="checkbox"/> *New Trail Construction miles / ft. _____ (Approved through Travel Mgt Decision)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource Protection & Improvement
<input type="checkbox"/> *Major Re-Route miles / ft. closed _____ (that will require new or additional environmental approvals) miles / ft. added _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Signs
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth Corps
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restoration/Rehabilitation (existing corridor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visitor Contacts & Law Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> Capital Equipment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Land Acquisition or Other
* New Trail Construction & Major Re-Route: Trail location(s) must be indicated on project map and detailed description of trail work plans must be provided in Project Selection Criteria, Section D-1, #3 Resource Protection, Enhancement & Restoration	
<b>TRAIL ACTIVITIES SUMMARY</b> (Based on your project description and budget, provide the percentage for each of the categories listed below.)	
<b>% of Budget</b>	<b>Program maintenance</b> (e.g., erosion controls, water bars and culverts, trail clearing and brushing, trail hardening and trail tread repairs, bridge construction and repairs, trailhead improvements and maintenance, crew wages, etc.)
30%	
4%	<b>Enforcement, Education &amp; Visitor Contacts</b> (e.g., patrols, enforcement, education and visitor contacts, wages, safety contacts, equipment, etc.)
2%	<b>Planning &amp; Travel Plan Implementation</b> (e.g., planning, engineering, maps, inventorying, travel management signs & installation, decommission non-system routes, rehabilitation, new construction, wages, monitoring, etc.)
64%	<b>Equipment /Materials/ Signs/ Youth Corps/Miscellaneous</b> (e.g., equipment maintenance and repair, personnel training, certification in the use of specialized equipment, program coordination, etc.)
	<b>Total: (Note: Percentages should add to 100 %)</b>

<b>SCOPE OF WORK – Project Description:</b>	
Project Name: Calico North Trail Project	Project No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Project Sponsor: SJNF Dolores RD	Application Year: 2023-2024
Project Contact: Tom Rice	Application No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Total Project Cost: \$127,000.00	Grant Request: \$85,000.00

**Project Description:** The Calico North Trail Project is a collaborative trail program partnering the San Juan National Forest’s Dolores Ranger District and the Southwest Conservation Corps on trail maintenance projects on the northern section of the Calico Trail. The proposed project area is in Dolores County, northwest of the town of Rico in southwest Colorado. It will be managed by the San Juan National Forest, Dolores Ranger District.

Our project proposal includes funding to hire a Southwest Conservation Corps (SCC) crew for 8 weeks of trail maintenance beginning in July of 2024 and ending by October 2024. The SCC crew will focus on under a mile of the Calico trail that needs heavy maintenance. The focus area is part of a 2018 reroute authorized in the Rico West Dolores Travel Management plan that has recently seen increased water daylighting into the trail corridor resulting in trail damage, such as deep rutting and trail braiding. This project does not involve new trail construction.

Sections of the trail requires extensive drainage and tread rehabilitation. Due to the wet nature of the project area drainage installation, armoring or turnpike construction will improve the current condition of the trail. Native materials, concrete pavers or treated posts will be utilized to improve trail conditions. Brushing for improved line of sight distance will also be conducted.

All trail construction will meet Forest Service specifications that support sustainable trail systems while reducing long term maintenance costs.

Forest Service trail staff will be available weekly to assist SCC crews with technical guidance. They will also be available to contact visitors, post signs indicating that State OHV trail funds paid for the project while also informing visitors that their OHV registration pays for the trail work. If travel management enforcement issues arise in the project area Forest Protection Officers (FPOs) will be available for compliance matters.

This unique trail system offers views of the Lizard Head Wilderness in Southwest Colorado to the north and the Four Corners region to the southwest. It provides access to a larger motorized system including the Eagle Peak, Priest Gulch and Stoner Mesa trails as well as other motorized routes on the San Juan that are enjoyed by hundreds of riders each year.

The Dolores Ranger District has utilized Colorado Parks and Wildlife grants and SCC crews for motorized trail maintenance for many years. The successful partnership of funding agencies and Youth Corp Crews has resulted in a successful motorized trail program and a positive experience for thousands of visitors each year. Our success would not be possible without the ongoing support of the Colorado Parks and Wildlife OHV program.

# Budget Form

**Project Name: Calico North Trail Project**

**Date Project will be Completed: 12/31/2024**

**Project Sponsor: San Juan National Forest, Dolores Ranger District**

**\*\*\*ITEMS LISTED IN THE BUDGET BELOW SHOULD BE SPECIFIC AND CORRESPOND TO THE PLANNED ACTIVITIES INDICATED IN THE PROJECT DESCRIPTION (SCOPE OF WORK) IN YOUR GRANT APPLICATION.\*\*\* (Round amounts off to nearest dollar)**

PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES <small>List all sources and amounts of project funding in this section (insert additional lines if needed)</small>	CASH	In-Kind (Non-Cash) Contributions	TOTAL
OHV Grant Funding (amount of requested OHV grant funds only)	\$ 85,000		\$ 85,000.00
Other Funding Sources	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Dolores Ranger District in kind- Trail crew staff, grant administrative oversight, FPO assistance, fleet	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ 25,000.00
SCC in kind-administratives support, fleet, training, tools	\$ 17,000	\$ -	\$ 17,000.00
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>USE OF GRANT FUNDING</b> <small>List uses of grant funding (only) below</small>	<b>TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT</b>		<b>\$ 127,000.00</b>

**I. Personnel Costs**  
Identify as: Salary/wage, benefits, travel, training, outfitting costs, personal protection equipment, etc.

Employee Name or Title/Grade	\$ Per Hr		Total Cost
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
<small>For CPW use only: Approximate number of workhours</small>	#DIV/0!	<b>Category Total</b>	\$ -

**II. Project Materials/Supplies**  
Identify as: Signs, rock, lumber, paint, nails, printing, maps/guides, education materials, etc.

	Price Per	Quantity	Total	
Signs, rock, lumber, paint, nails, seed, printing, maps/guides, education materials, screws, gravel, boulders,	\$ 5,000.00	1	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
bank fees associated with federal purchases, filter, fabric,	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
pavers, bolts, screws, posts	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
			<b>Category Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>

**III. Equipment**  
Identify as: Trail Dozers, ATV/UTV, motorcycle, chainsaws, winches, field equipment rentals, equipment fuel, repairs, and operations, etc.

	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
			<b>Category Total</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

**III.A. FLEET Equipment**  
Identify as: Crew Fleet Vehicles/Trucks monthly FOR & USE, Fleet Equipment monthly USE.

	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
			<b>Category Total</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

**IV. Contracted Services**  
Identify as: Youth Corps, NEPA, planning, engineering, construction contractor/subcontractor costs

Southwest Conservation Corps crew	\$ 10,000.00	8 weeks	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
			<b>Category Total</b>	<b>\$ 80,000.00</b>

**V. Volunteer Support**  
Identify as: *For Volunteers Only* Safety education, safety gear (gloves/goggles), outfitting, per diem (meals or mileage when travel required by and identified in project scope of work), non-monetary awards or recognition.

	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
			<b>Category Total</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

**Total \$ 85,000.00**

Note: Any changes to the budget must have pre-approval from the Program

# C-1

## FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION and LAND MANAGER APPROVAL

The applicant is responsible for securing all necessary permits, licenses, clearances, and environmental analysis documentation necessary to comply with local, state, and/or federal laws.

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Project Name	Calico North Trail Project	Project Sponsor	San Juan National Forest, Dolores Ranger District
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**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 titled:  
San Juan National Forest Land Management Plan Date: 9/2013;9/29/83

- 
3. A decision has been issued as part of the NEPA environmental review process.  
Date and title of document:  
Rico West Dolores Travel Management Plan 7/30/2018; San Juan National Forest Land Management Plan 9/2013;9/29/83.

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If not, please state reason and the estimated date when NEPA will be complete. [No funds will be distributed until any required NEPA documentation is completed.]

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For more information contact: Emma Reinemann, NEPA Specialist  
970-882-6822 [emma.reinemann@usda.gov](mailto:emma.reinemann@usda.gov)


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4. The next planning process that may affect this project is planned for (date). NA

Derek Padilla, District Ranger, SJNF Dolores RD

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Print or type Land Manager's Name and Title

	Digitally signed by DEREK PADILLA Date: 2022.11.01 13:23:33 -06'00'	District Ranger	11/1/2022
Land Manager Signature and Title			Date

## **PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA**

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### **1. Need for & Benefit of the Project (25 points):**

The Calico North Trail Project is a collaborative trail program partnering the Dolores Ranger District and the Southwest Conservation Corp on trail maintenance projects on the Calico Trail.

Our project proposal includes funding to hire a Southwest Conservation Corps (SCC) crew for 8 weeks of trail maintenance. The SCC crew will focus on less than a mile of the Calico trail that needs heavy maintenance.

This unique trail offers views of the Wilson Range, Rico Mountains and the Four Corners area. It is a trail with different challenges that satisfies riders of all skill levels with the north end catering to more skilled motorcycle riders as well as non-motorized visitors. Trail maintenance improves and protects access to a larger motorized system including the Eagle Peak, Priest Gulch and Stoner Mesa trails. It is an important route to other motorized routes on the San Juan improving trail connectivity that many motorcyclists prefer.

It is estimated that over 1000 motorcycles use our trail system annually based on anecdotal data gathered from trail counters, trail users and staff or visitor data on adjacent motorized trails. Work on this trail is a priority due to the growing popularity of this trail section as well as an increase in water from hillside springs that emerged after the 2018 reroute construction. Water from the springs now flow across and down the trail prism resulting in rutting and trail braiding.

As visitation by all users continue to increase the Calico Trail and many other district trails will require increased maintenance to support a sustainable trail system as well as maintain the long-term investment in the trail.

Motorized single track such as the Calico Trail provide a challenging trail opportunity for single-track enthusiasts. Sustainable construction of motorized trails demonstrates to all users the compatibility of motorized trails with other local trail users while creating a safer riding opportunity on challenging terrain. Furthermore, sustainable construction and maintenance of motorized trails, especially those in wetter soils or on steep slopes, improves soil stability while protecting water quality and important riparian areas. This reduces the perception of motorized uses negatively affecting important ecological sites on the Dolores District.

The benefit of utilizing the Southwest Conservation Corp rather than volunteer organizations on this project is multi-fold. A SCC crew can base itself in the backcountry for multiple days resulting in efficient crew mobilization and demobilization and more effective use of time. SCC trail crews led by experienced crew bosses in partnership with Forest Service trail crew supervisors can accomplish maintenance activities that volunteer groups have not completed. Finally, hiring youth crews in today's challenging economic times results in economic gains for local economies and families while training kids who may be our future leaders.

As Forest Service funding shrinks but maintenance needs continue to grow, smart investment of partnership dollars including OHV funds provide for long-term sustainability of motorized trails. The Calico Trail project is similar to the reconstruction projects that the SCC has completed on other district trails over the past several years. It has improved access to single track opportunities in the Rico West Dolores Travel Management landscape as well as in other parts of the San Juan National Forest.

## **2. Partnerships, Support and Leverage (25 points):**

This project supports the Southwest Conservation Corps and Forest Service partnership base by encouraging a cooperative relationship between the Dolores Public Lands Office and the Corp. The SCC attracts young people, aged 18-24, from the Four Corners and beyond and places them into a crew of six to eight people. The crew along with two experienced crew bosses camp out for up to two-week tours while working on a project.

Beginning in 1998, the Dolores Public Lands Office cultivated a working relationship with the SCC. It has provided many young adults meaningful employment while increasing their environmental awareness and opportunities for multiple-use stewardship of public lands. Local organizations such as the Montezuma County Inspire Program, 9-R School Systems and the Federal Lands Internship Program have enrolled qualified youths in the SCC program. The Dolores District has also collaborated with the SCC Green Veteran Crew program. These recently retired military veterans were part of a SCC hazardous fuels reduction crew working with the District's timber and recreation shops on forest projects. SCC crews have also supported the San Juan Mountain Association, Back Country Horsemen, San Juan Trail Riders and local businesses and trail users. Many of these partners have provided letters of support for our grant included in the application package.

Other partners such as the towns of Dolores and Mancos, individuals and business owners, trail groups as well as local counties who collaborate on other forest projects have provided support letters. The Forest Service recognizes the importance of our partners including CPW's OHV program by placing "Colorado OHV Registration Dollars at Work" stickers on trail system signs throughout the project area.

No Forest is immune to controversy when it comes to decision making simply because we manage land for a diverse population with equally diverse opinions. The Calico Trail has received much attention over the years from motorized and non-motorized advocates who want the trail managed, in some cases, in divergent ways that includes timing restrictions or non-motorized designation.

Past State Trails funding has addressed many of the resource-based damage pointed out by motorized and non-motorized users resulting in well-engineered sections of the trail system. Funding has resulted in heavy trail maintenance projects or reroutes that can support motorized traffic while reducing resource impacts. Projects such as motorized trail maintenance are a benefit to nearly all visitors as it improves access to public lands while protecting the natural and cultural resources that are important to forest health.

The Dolores Ranger District will provide \$25,000.00 of in-kind match that includes overall project support and supervision by the District Trails Specialist and the Forest Supervisor's engineering program. Specifically, the Forest Service will provide transportation of some equipment or materials, limited logging services and on the ground technical guidance for the trail crew and their work.

\$5,000 is being requested to purchase materials and supplies. \$80,000 of OHV grant funds is being requested to fund an SCC crew (8 weeks of crew time at \$10,000/week). Funds pay for corps member's stipends, SCC crew leader wages, food, tools, camp equipment, training, environmental education and crew supervision. SCC will be responsible for all other program administration expenses including administrative costs, insurance, planning, business administration, transportation costs and rental of office/warehouse facilities, an approximate \$17,000 in-kind match.

The total SCC and Forest Service in-kind contributions total \$42,000.00, approximately 34% of the \$127,000 project cost.

### **3. Resource Protection, Enhancement and Restoration relative to eligible OHV grant activities**

*(25 points):*

The proposed Calico North Trail Project would aid in the reconstruction and maintenance of a single-track trail that provides an important connection to other single-track trails in the northern portion of the Dolores District as well as other motorized routes on the San Juan National Forest.

In 2018, the Dolores Ranger District constructed a reroute that replaced a fall line section of the Calico Trail through a wet area. At the time of construction, conditions were extremely dry and no springs or seeps were daylighting into new trail section. 2022 monsoons resulted in the reestablishment of springs and seeps that flowed into the trail creating unacceptable trail damage that included deep rutting and trail braiding. The district did receive reports from visitors about the motorized impacts to this section of the trail. Short term repairs were completed in August of 2022, but true long-term solutions are necessary. Sustainable trail construction and maintenance that supports motorized and other multi-use opportunities is the goal of this project.

Trail techniques such as hardening the tread or constructing turnpikes reduce pressure on any sensitive ecosystems. Tread work will be undertaken to decrease head cutting in areas that are eroding. Rutted areas will be hardened with locally sourced rock or pavers to decrease erosion. Installing drainage features will move water more effectively and in turn reduce trail damage and future maintenance requirements.

The project will protect sensitive subalpine zones that are an important part of forest health as well as an opportunity for single track motorcycle enthusiasts to ride. Implementation of this project will help improve trail tread paths encouraging users to follow existing trails rather than creating new social trails that affect fragile resources in the watershed including plant and wildlife species. In addition, sound trail maintenance protects forest resources including the many miles of trails that are a costly component of Forest Service infrastructure.

Maintenance of infrastructure including roads, campgrounds and trails is expensive regardless of who is completing the work. The ability of SCC crews to mobilize to remote parts of the Forest for up to two weeks at a time reduces drive time, fuel costs and the safety issues associated with transporting crews and equipment. It also allows the crew to focus on remote sections of trails that are typically difficult to access due to the location while also including a youth component that is an important part of the legislation behind the OHV trail grant program.

As far as indirect benefits to the area, focusing repairs on a high visibility motorized trail that truly solve resource problems shows most members of the public that some sensitive ecosystems can support motorized use through well engineered trail maintenance.

### **4. Travel Management Plan Implementation, Education and Enforcement (25 points):**

*Travel Management Implementation*-Our proposal complies with decisions included in the *Rico West Dolores Travel Management Plan (07/2018)* that authorized a motorized trail system that is sustainable and manageable.

Measures to improve signing, reduce user conflicts, increase motorized opportunities and expand on the ground enforcement of travel rules were analyzed in travel management plans and are implemented on our trail systems by Dolores Ranger District staff.

Maintenance of the Calico Trail will reduce conflicts among users by improving the physical conditions of the single-track motorized trail. Improvements address the concerns of some users who state motorized trails are not sustainable in some steep or wet subalpine areas of the district. It will also enhance motorized opportunities for riders displaced from other system trails while improving the trail conditions for non-motorized visitors utilizing the trail.



**Education**-Clear trail signing is an important part of trail education. We continue to use the “yield triangle” on our shared use trails. The triangle describes how trail users should yield when encountering other users. For example, motorized users should always yield to non-motorized users; mountain bikers should yield to hikers and horseback riders; and hikers should yield to horseback riders. In addition, mixed motorized and non-motorized segments of district trails are identified to minimize conflicts between users while increasing the awareness of potential safety issues as well as the multiple use concept of many of our trails.

We will continue to provide free Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) maps to our visitors to educate the public about our motorized trail system. In addition, we promote the use of smart phone MVUM apps as a relatively fool proof way of tracking a user’s location on a trail.

SCC crews are often an educational and on the ground point of contact for many forest visitors who may have questions about the multiple-use trails that they are maintaining. The Dolores District will provide a district trails specialist who will interact weekly with the crew. The Forest Service specialist will not only inspect the crew’s work but also highlight OHV rules and regulations for the SCC crew who may have opportunities to interact with the public. Additional resources available to the crew include Forest Protection Officers (FPO) from the District.

Trail crew members also train SCC members on the federal job application process and recruit solid corps members who would be a good addition to a Forest Service crew.

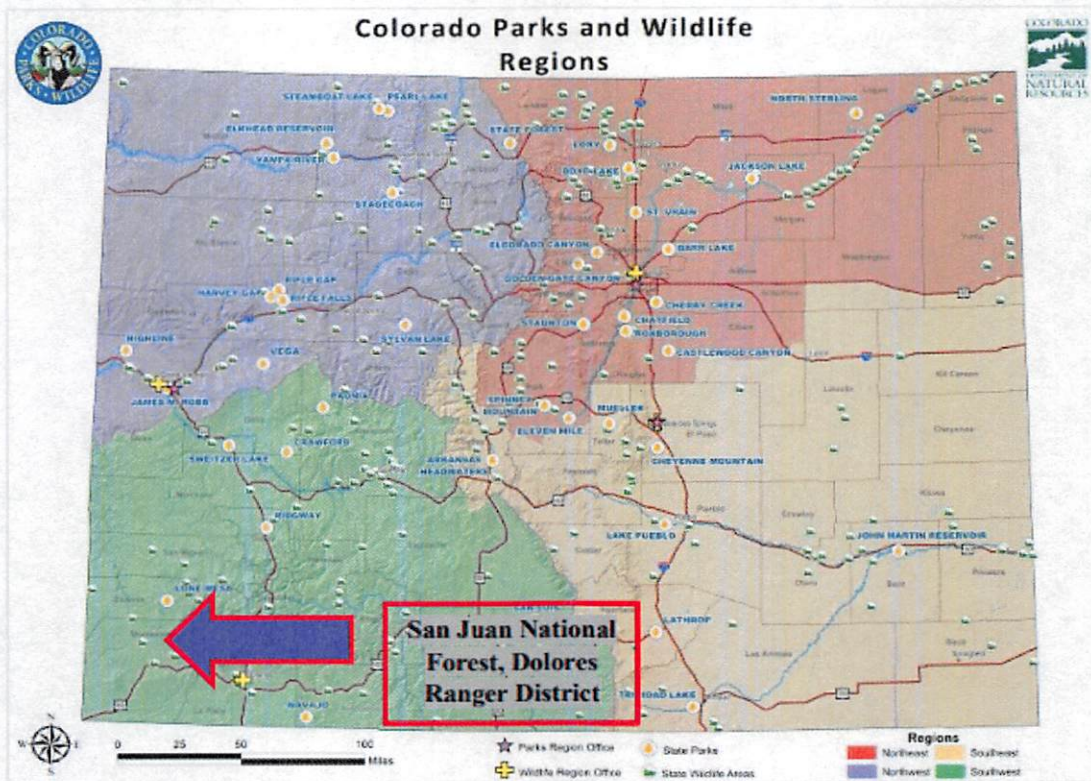
**Enforcement and Compliance activities**-Clear signing allows our visitors to understand how our trails are managed while also enabling our law enforcement and Forest Protection Officers (FPO) to enforce Forest and State OHV rules and regulations. Implementation of this project will ensure access points, trailheads and trail intersections are well signed and any vandalized or damaged signs are repaired or replaced with new signs. Staff will also work with Forest Service law enforcement officers and FPOs on enforcement or compliance issues.

Trail staff will work with Forest Service law enforcement officers and FPOs on enforcement or compliance issues. Many of the District’s FPOs work closely with CPW’s Southwest Regional Trail Coordinator including conducting trail patrols together. District FPO staff typically patrol weekends and Holidays, often using OHVs to contact visitors on our motorized trails. This program costs over \$9500 and is covered by the Forest Service and has proven to be a cost-effective educational tool. These patrols check OHV registration and remind any motorized users that their registration dollars support motorized trail work. In some cases, FPOs issue citations to OHV riders who have expired registrations or violate travel rules. Citations are documented using the same database that our Forest Law Enforcement Officers use for their citations. Non-payment of citations can result in additional legal issues for the cited individuals.

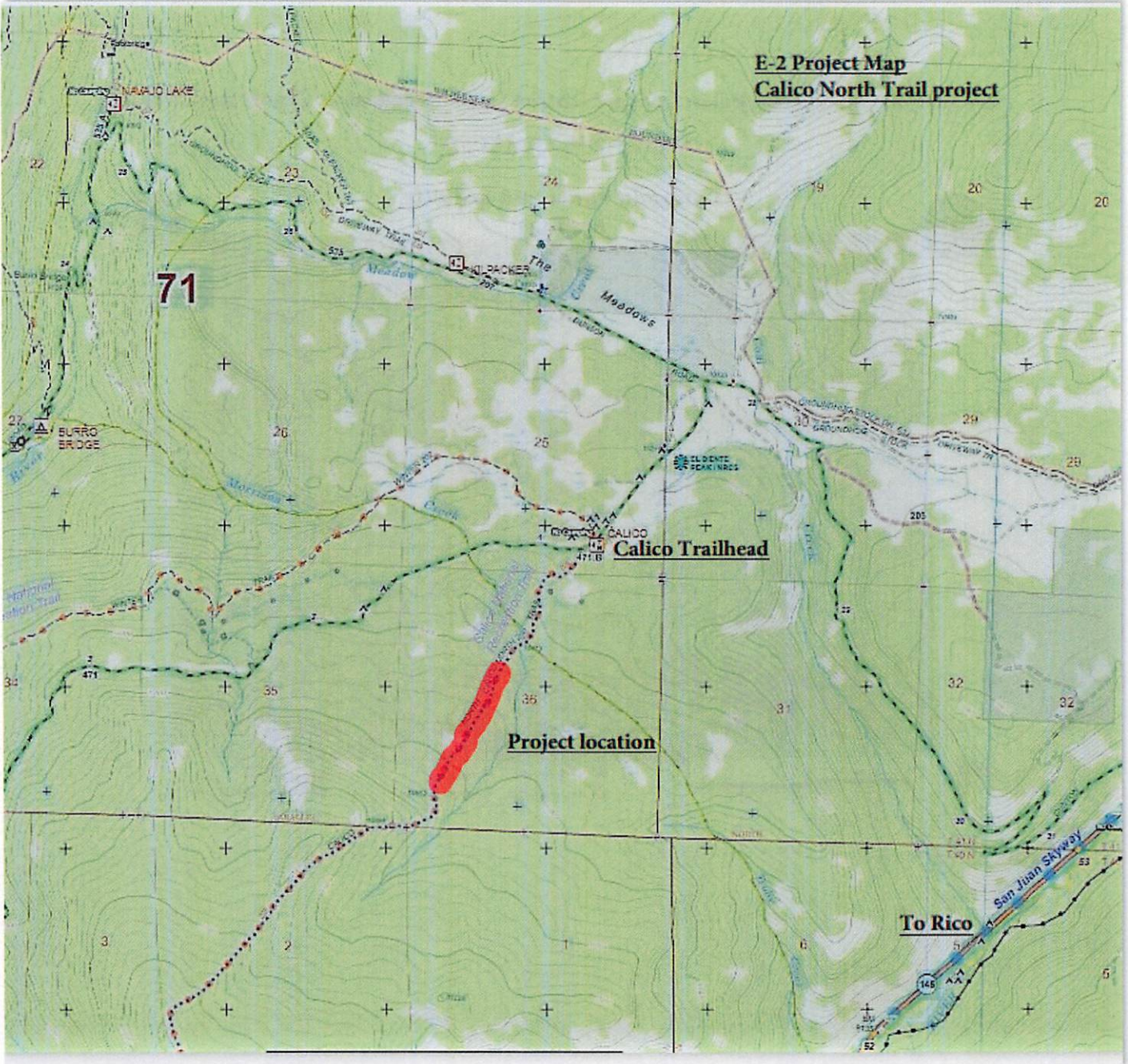
Although not directly imbedded with the crew, FPOs are available to the crew in the event of ongoing compliance issues that crews may witness. SCC crews will also have copies of the San Juan National Forest Dolores Ranger District Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) that can be provided to any visitors they may contact while in the field.

Successful funding by Colorado Parks and Wildlife OHV program for a SCC crew will promote motorized recreational opportunities while protecting the natural and cultural resources in the project area.

San Juan National Forest Dolores Ranger District Good Management Grant location map  
Calico North Trail Project



**E-2 Project Map**  
**Calico North Trail project**



**To Rico**



Figure F:  
Example of  
current Calico  
Trail conditions



Figure F:  
Example of  
repairing ruts  
with a turnpike



Figure F:  
Example of the  
use of pavers to  
repair rutted trail  
tread.

**(G) Letters of Project Support**

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**San Juan Trailriders**  
181 Hopkins Creek Trail  
Durango, CO 81301  
[www.sanjuantrailriders.com](http://www.sanjuantrailriders.com)

November 7, 2022

Tom Metsa,  
Colorado Parks and Wildlife  
State Trails OHV Program  
13787 S. Hwy 85  
Littleton, CO 80125

RE: Calico Trail Project

Tom:

On behalf of the San Juan Trailriders, I am writing in support of the Calico Trail Project that Tom Rice of the Dolores Public Lands Office has applied for. The Calico Trail is arguably one of America's most scenic high altitude singletrack trails and includes varied trail surfaces ranging from scree fields to loamy mountain soil. The Calico Trail is probably the single most important artery on the Dolores District as well, including ties into a number of other motorized trails such as the Eagle Peak, Stoner Mesa and Priest Gulch trails as well as a number of Forest Service roads and other single track routes.

The work invested in Calico by the OHV program in the past have proven successful in bolstering the sustainability of the trail, but a historically-wet summer in 2022, as well as increased traffic has highlighted the need for some focused attention on a few areas including stabilization of crossings, additional signage, as well as drainage and tread repairs.

As representatives and advocates for the motorized community, San Juan Trailriders strongly supports this project, and feels the Dolores District has formulated a solid plan of action to address the aforementioned issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our support for the Calico Trail Project and the work that the Dolores District continues to do on behalf of all public land users.

Sincerely,  
Dustin Wilkinson  
San Juan Trailriders  
(970) 903-1893





October 17, 2022

Tom Metsa, OHV Program Manager  
COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE  
13787 South Hwy 85  
Littleton, Colorado 80125

RE: Colorado State Parks and Wildlife OHV Grant

Dear Mr. Metsa:

The Town of Dolores Supports the efforts of the Dolores Ranger District to pursue grant funding from the Colorado State Parks and Wildlife OHV Program to fund projects for the maintenance of motorized trails on the San Juan National Forest. The Town of Dolores supports the grant requests for the following three grant proposals:

**The Calico Trail Project-** The District proposes to hire a Southwest Conservation Corp crew for up to 8 weeks of work on the Calico Trail located north of Rico, Colorado near the Lizard Head Wilderness area. The trail is a popular motorized route that ties into a number of other motorized trails such as the Eagle Peak, Stoner Mesa, and Priest Gulch trails as well as a number of Forest Service roads and other single-track routes. This section of trail was rerouted over 3 years ago and now requires some focused maintenance. Work includes stabilization of drainage crossings, signage, tread, and drainage repair.

**Dozer 24 Project-** This year our Dozer crew completed heavy maintenance on a variety of trails near the communities of Mancos, Dolores, and Rico. The district is requesting funds that will pay the salaries of a returning dozer operator and a swamper. This crew will focus on heavy maintenance of our motorized trail system using the district's trail dozer.

**Good Management Trail Crew 20-** Beginning in 2003, the district has staffed a trail crew who works on the San Juan Forest's motorized trails using funds from the motorized trail program.

The Dolores Ranger District has successfully partnered with the Good Management Program trail crew and the Southwest Conservation Corp on trail maintenance projects for the last decade. This relationship and much needed support have helped to maintain popular trails such as the Calico, Aspen Loop, Boggy Draw ATV loop and Stoner Mesa trails. The accomplishments of these crews could not have been done without the assistance from the State OHV Program.

We appreciate your consideration and ongoing support of our great regional motorized trail system and the Dolores Ranger District's trail program.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leigh Reeves".

Leigh Reeves, Mayor



## Board of County Commissioners

P O Box 608  
Dove Creek, CO 81324

Phone: (970) 677 2383 Fax: (970) 677-2815

[dcdolocnty@fone.net](mailto:dcdolocnty@fone.net)

17 October 2022

Tom Rice, Recreation Staff Officer  
San Juan National Forest, Dolores Ranger District  
29211 Hwy 184  
Dolores, CO 81323

RE: Letter of Support for Grant Proposals to the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Motorized Trails Program

Dear Tom:

Dolores County Board of County Commissioners (DCBOCC) is happy to write this letter of support for the upcoming grant proposals to the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Motorized Trails Program. We've seen the good working relationship between the San Juan Forest Service and Colorado Parks and Wildlife through these grants and the improvements it has brought to the trail systems that exist within Dolores County and our neighboring counties.

We support the 3 projects that are being planned on the Dolores Ranger District.

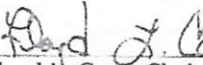
The Calico Trail Project- this is a major artery to several other localized heavily used trails in the Rico area. After being rerouted to prevent further damage, it now needs maintenance to improve drainage and stabilization. We know this is a highly used and favorite trail of many and are encouraged to hear the work efforts for this area.

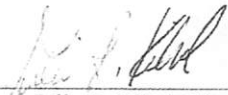
Dozer 24 Project- the district is requesting funds for the continuation of heavy maintenance that will pay the salaries of returning dozer operator and a swamper being used for heavy maintenance of the motorized trail system.  
Good Management Trail Crew 20- this crew has existed since 2003 working on motorized trails using funds from the motorized trail program. They are responsible for the district's 220+ miles of motorized routes.

The DCBOCC has supported the requests of grant proposals from the San Juan National Forest, Dolores Ranger District utilizing the funding from Colorado Parks and Wildlife Motorized Trail Programs for many years. With the increase of OHV usage and the number of people visiting and enjoying our public lands we see the need for continued maintenance and protection of these natural resources. It is good to see our local federal agencies working together to accomplish this.

Sincerely,

Dolores County Board of County Commissioners

  
Floyd J. Cook, Chair

  
Julie R. Kibel, Vice Chair

  
Steve Garchar



November 1, 2022

To whom it may concern,

Rico Trails Alliance (RTA) was founded in 2017 to steward the local and regional trail systems in and around Rico, Colorado, focusing on user education and the access, development, and use of non-motorized trails.

RTA fully supports the US Forest Service Dolores Ranger District's efforts to continue work on the Calico Trail Project, continue the Dozer 24 project, and to continue supporting the Good Management Trail Crew 20.

The Calico Trail near Rico, Colorado is a very popular alpine motorized route that serves as the backbone of the trails system to the west of Rico. The Calico Trail ties into a number of other motorized singletrack trails such as Priest Gulch, Eagle Peak, and Stoner Mesa as well as a number of Forest Service roads and non-motorized singletrack trails. In addition to providing unique and challenging motorized singletrack, the Calico Trail is also used by non-motorized users including hunters, mountain bikers, hikers, and equestrians. Keeping the Calico Trail maintained and functional for all uses contributes to the local economy and quality of life in Rico. Motorized and non-motorized users alike travel great distances specifically to experience the Calico Trail, and in doing so purchase gas, food, and lodging in Rico. The Dolores Ranger District's ongoing work on this trail via the Southwest Conservation Corps has resulted in great improvement for all users and for the sustainability of the trail. The high quality of work completed is long-lasting and a great investment by Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

The Dozer 24 project provides heavy equipment support that is integral to efficiently maintaining the regional trail system and has provided critical reroutes and realignments on the North Calico Trail.

Since 2003, the Good Management Trail Crew 20 has kept and maintained the District's 220+ miles of multi-use motorized trails.

Having seen, utilized, and enjoyed the quality work that the Dolores Ranger District has completed using CPW funds, RTA fully supports the District's requests for additional State funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Wing".

Alex Wing, President

Rico Trails Alliance

PO BOX 25 | RICO, CO | 81332 | [INFO@RICOTRAILSALLIANCE.ORG](mailto:INFO@RICOTRAILSALLIANCE.ORG)

FOUNDED 2017 | [RICOTRAILSALLIANCE.ORG](http://RICOTRAILSALLIANCE.ORG)



OHV Program Manager  
Colorado Parks and Wildlife  
13787 South Highway 85  
Littleton, CO 80125

October 26, 2022

Dear Grant Review Committee Members:

Please accept this letter as strong support for the San Juan National Forest's (SJNF) request for funding from the Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Fund Grants for the **Good Management Crew, the Dozer 24 Project** and the **Calico Trail Project**.

The **Good Management** grant supports the Dolores District's trail crew. The Good Management crew program has been an integral part of not only the Dolores RD's trail capacity since 2003 but has also supported and mentored many SCC crews over the years as well as well as provided a local place for the best and brightest of SCC alumni to get a job and start a career path with afterwards.

**The Dozer 24 Project** supports an efficient use of resources, placing machinery along trails where it can be more efficient and effective than hand crews. In some cases, machinery help establish or reestablish a bench that can be buffed by SCC or agency hand crews.

The **Calico Trail Project** is a collaborative trail program partnering the Dolores Ranger District and the Southwest Conservation Corps. The trail is a popular alpine motorized route that ties into several other motorized single-track trails such as Priest Gulch, Eagle Peak, and Stoner Mesa as well as a number of Forest Service roads. This section of trail was rerouted over three years ago and now requires some focused maintenance. Work includes stabilization of drainage crossings, signage, tread and drainage repair, work which SCC is well positioned to complete.

SCC employs a diverse group of young women and men and completes important conservation projects for the public benefit. Founded as a non-profit organization in 1998 to continue the legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930s, SCCs employment and educational projects are sponsored primarily by land management agencies and municipalities throughout the southwest region of the U.S. Each year over 550 young adults are provided paid opportunities to perform valuable service on public lands while learning about natural resources, land management agencies, and themselves.

By partnering with the Dolores Ranger District, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and other community partners, SCC believes that this project would fully realize the mission of our program which is, "To empower individuals to positively impact their lives, their communities, and their environment." This project represents a great opportunity to invest young adults with paid national service opportunities to engage in local resource and community development while developing personal and professional skills to help develop the next generation of conservation leaders and natural resource managers. SCC strongly supports this project and is proud to be involved in a project that promotes collaboration and the importance of putting youth to work in service of our public lands.



Sincerely,

*Kevin Heiner*

Kevin Heiner  
Director, Southwest Conservation Corps

[kevin@conservationlegacy.org](mailto:kevin@conservationlegacy.org)

(970) 759-3935



**County Commissioners:**

Jim Candelaria  
Gerald Koppenhafer  
Kent Lindsay

**County Administrator:**

Travis Anderson

**Board of County Commissioners**

109 West Main, Room 250  
Cortez, CO 81321  
(970) 565-8317  
(970) 565-3420 Fax

October 18, 2022

Tom Metsa, OHV Program Manager  
COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE  
13787 South Hwy 85  
Littleton, Colorado 80125

**RE: CPW Motorized Trail Grants**

Dear Mr. Metsa;

The Montezuma County Board of County Commissioners is again pleased to support the Dolores Ranger Districts' motorized grant request to Colorado Parks and Wildlife. This year the San Juan National Forest Dolores Ranger District Motorized Trails Program will focus on three significant projects within the District.

- **The Calico Trail Project-** The Dolores District proposes to hire a Southwest Conservation Corp crew for up to 8 weeks of work on the Calico Trail located north of Rico, Colorado, near the Lizard Head Wilderness area. The trail is a popular motorized route that ties into several other motorized trails, such as the Eagle Peak, Stoner Mesa, and Priest Gulch trails, as well as many Forest Service roads and different single-track routes. After rerouting the trail segment three years ago, focused maintenance is to keep the path in good shape. Work includes stabilization of drainage crossings, signage, tread, and improved drainage structures.
- **Dozer 24 Project-** Our Dozer crew completed heavy maintenance on various trails near Mancos, Dolores, and Rico communities this year. The District is requesting funds to pay the salaries of a returning dozer operator and a swamper. This crew will focus on heavy maintenance of our motorized trail system using the District's trail dozer.
- **Good Management Trail Crew 20-** Beginning in 2003, the District has staffed a trail crew who works on our motorized trails using funds from the motorized trail program. They are the core of our trail program, focusing on maintaining the District's 220+ miles of motorized routes.

Many of our communities in southwest Colorado benefit from motorized access to public lands adjacent to our towns. Community members recreate on these lands daily and continue to advocate for reasonable and responsible motorized recreational opportunities.

Recreational OHV opportunities are significant to our local economy and lifestyle. Moreover, it is open to visitors from all regions of our country. It is critically important to us to protect motorized use as a valued recreational resource. Montezuma County's interest is to ensure that Motorized/OHV use will be integrated into plans equally, responsibly, and sustainably for generations to come.

The USFS Dolores Ranger District has effectively tapped into grant opportunities to help sustain the Motorized Trail program. More importantly, the USFS Dolores Ranger District has been especially adept at converting funding opportunities into successful trail maintenance projects on the ground.

Rural communities with limited tax bases need help maintaining the recreational network vital to the state. CPW's partnership in keeping an outstanding recreational network is critical. In the face of declining federal recreational budgets and increased recreational use, CPW's financial commitment to the community is vital and appreciated.

Montezuma County strongly supports the Dolores Ranger District's Motorized Trail program and the grant request to CPW. The Dolores Ranger District has consistently demonstrated sound project management and delivered outstanding results. We strongly encourage CPW's continued investment in the Dolores Ranger District's trails program with this proven track record and high community value.

Montezuma County strongly supports all of the proposed trail maintenance activities and the involvement of the Southwest Conservation Corps crew to perform the work. The Southwest Couth Corps builds capacity in youth while getting an important job done.

Montezuma County supports trails of all kinds. With this grant proposal, we are pleased to support work focused on motorized trail improvements. The proposed maintenance will help maintain a sustainable trail system long into the future.

Sincerely,

The Montezuma County Board of County Commissioners

Jim Candelaria

Kent Lindsay

Gerald Kopenhaffer