



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

Name of Project: Archuleta ATV Trail Project (Phase 2)		Date of Application: 10/24/2022
<i>(Please limit the project name to 5 words or less)</i>		
Total Project Cost: \$158,700.00	Grant Request: \$143,000.00	
<i>(round off to the nearest \$1)</i>	<i>Amount Requested (round off to the nearest \$1) must match the Project Budget Form.</i>	
PROJECT SPONSOR (Name and Address for entity legally responsible for project)		
Organization Name: Rio Grande National Forest (Conejos Peak Ranger District)		
Mailing Address: 15571 County Road T-5		
La Jara Colorado 81140	Fax: 719-274-6301	
Telephone: 719-274-6323	Email: gerard.sandoval@usda.com	

OFFICIAL USE ONLY – DUNS # (IF REQUIRED):

PROJECT CONTACT 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: Gerard Sandoval		Title: Forestry Technician
Mailing Address: 15571 County Road T-5		
La Jara Colorado 81140		
Telephone: 719-274-6323	Fax: 719-274-6301	Email: gerard.sandoval@usda.com
		Is this the primary contact for this grant: YES

PROJECT CLOSE-OUT CONTACT This is the person responsible for submitting receipts for project spending and close-out. Please notify us if <i>Project Contact</i> changes.		
Name: Jeremiah Martinez		Title: Recreation Specialist
Mailing Address: 15571 County Road T-5		
La Jara Colorado 81140		
Telephone: 719-274-6320	Fax: 719-274-6301	Email: jeremiah.martinez@usda.gov

GRANTS & AGREEMENTS SPECIALIST (USFS only) or BUDGET CONTACT (BLM only)		
Name: Amanda Marr		Title: Grant & Agreement Specialist
Mailing Address: Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands		
125 North Main Street Chadron, NE 69337		
Telephone: 308-432-0388	Fax: 308-432-0309	Email: amanda.marr@usda.gov

PROJECT LOCATION

Nearest Town or City: Chama, New Mexico

County(ies): Archuleta in Colorado

Township/Range/Section: 37.0322606 -106.557305

State Senate District #: 6

State Representative District #:59

LAND OWNERSHIP

1. Provide the name/s of the property owners:

2. The trail corridor is controlled by: Fee Simple Lease Easement License
 Right-of-Way Land Acquisition Ownership to be obtained Other (explain): Owned by the
USAD Forest Service**TRAIL SYSTEM INFORMATION** (List the number of miles for each type of OHV trail in your area)Miles of Singletrack: _____ Miles of 50" or less: 16 Miles of Full-sized: 0**TRAIL USER INFORMATION** (Please check all that apply to the work planned for this project) All-Terrain Vehicle Side x Side up to 50" Full Sized 4X4
 Motorcycling Four-Wheeling Accessible Access**PROJECT INFORMATION** (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 checked="" 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

TRAIL ACTIVITIES SUMMARY (Based on your project description and budget, provide the percentage for each of the categories listed below.)

% of Budget	Program maintenance (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	
5	Enforcement, Education & Visitor Contacts (e.g., patrols, enforcement, education and visitor contacts, wages, safety contacts, equipment, etc.)
60	Planning & Travel Plan Implementation (e.g., planning, engineering, maps, inventorying, travel management signs & installation, decommission non-system routes, rehabilitation, new construction, wages, monitoring, etc.)
5	Equipment /Materials/ Signs/ Youth Corps/Miscellaneous (e.g., equipment maintenance and repair, personnel training, certification in the use of specialized equipment, program coordination, etc.)
100	Total: (Note: Percentages should add to 100 %)

SCOPE OF WORK – Project Description:

Project Name: Archuleta ATV Trail Project (Phase 2)

Project No.:
(to be completed by CPW)

Project Sponsor: Conejos Peak Ranger District (CPRD)

Application Year: 2023-2024

Project Contact: Gerard Sandoval

Application No.:
(to be completed by CPW)

Total Project Cost: \$ 158,700.00

Grant Request: \$ 143,000.00

Project Description: This project will take place on the Archuleta Trail # 741. The USDA Forest Service will work to design a plan to repair and improve three parts of the only existing ATV trail within the Rio Grande National Forest/Conejos Peak Ranger District (CPRD). The project was identified because of this trail's heavy use, especially during the Fall hunting seasons. The parking area is usually filled to capacity, with many of the hunters being ATV/UTV users. I have, from personal observation seen up to 100 vehicles parked in the trailhead area. One of the attached photos show the trailhead on the last day of the last hunting season 2022. Initially, during the 2019 field season, the Statewide OHV Crew assessed the work that is needed on the 16 miles of trail. This is the second phase of a project that began in the 2019-2020-Grant Cycle. The first phase of the work included clearing of the trail and some work on drainage issues by an SCC Crew. The second phase of the project will be to create a design/blueprint to repair three parts of this trail within its existing footprint. The potential danger to ATV users, Single Track Motorized users and equestrian users is of the utmost concern to the CPRD Recreation Staff. The other problem that exists, is because of the drainage issues the resource/landscape is being severely damaged. That is why this project is of high priority.

WHO?

The United States Forest Service is the government agency responsible for this project. We will contract the services of SCC to do regular trail maintenance and a Saw Crew remove downed tree removal. We will need two hitches (four weeks) of a Saw Crew, and two hitches (four weeks) of a Regular Trail Crew. A contracted trail design crew will be sought out through a bidding process to design a plan to improve the existing Archuleta Trail #741. The trail as it exists is braided and rutted and in desperate need of drainage repair, tree clearing and tread repair. Finally, we will utilize four Forest Service Employees who will work with the SCC crews and will oversee the project.

WHERE?

The project work will be completed on lands managed by the Conejos Peak Ranger District on the Rio Grande National Forest in Archuleta County. Archuleta Trail # 741. See attached map for a specific location.

WHAT? The project will identify a plan to enhance the Conejos Peak Ranger District's only ATV trail by providing a challenging, safe, and sustainable sections of the 16-mile path. By doing thorough trail design assessments and trail maintenance, we will be able to achieve these goals. We will continue to implement travel management plans, educate trail users, and enforce regulations. In addition, many maintenance projects will utilize individual volunteers, clubs, and other agencies in-order to accomplish productive and rewarding projects that are consistent with both approved travel management plans and Forest Service trail construction and maintenance standard guidelines. We will continue our efforts to repair and install information kiosks, produce brochures, monitor use patterns in-order to make management decisions, enhance trail user satisfaction with education regarding "tread lightly" objectives, protect resources utilizing both natural and constructed barriers, and continue positive community relationships. Rehabilitation of resource damaged areas will also be a focus of this project.

WHEN? The work will begin in mid-June, (to give adequate time for winter snows to thaw) and will continue until the project is complete. The approximate time would be approximately 6-8 weeks. June 16, 2024, to September 21, 2024.

Program Funding Acknowledgement – The OHV Program, through Colorado Parks and Wildlife, in past years has enabled the CPRD to work on motorized trails that otherwise would be neglected. We value the OHV program and its personnel, and we will continue to acknowledge their support and efforts whenever and however possible. We will post CPW OHV decals on trail markers, kiosks and all other places that are appropriate.

DEFINITIONS?

CPRD-Conejos Peak Ranger District
SCC-Southwest Conservation Corp

Budget Form

Project Name: Archuleta ATV Trail Project (Phase 2)

Date Project will be Completed: 12/31/2024

Project Sponsor: Rio Grande National Forest (Conejos Peak 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)			\$ 143,000.00
Other Funding Sources: SCC Inkind <small>List other sources of project funding here and for what the funding will be used. (insert more lines if needed)</small>		\$ 10,500	\$ 10,500.00
Example: Forest Service Employee Salaries (20 Employee Days)	\$ -	\$ 5,200	\$ 5,200.00
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
USE OF GRANT FUNDING <small>List uses of grant funding (only) below</small>	TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT		\$ 158,700.00

I. Personnel Costs <small>Identify as: Salary/wage, benefits, travel, training, outfitting costs, personal protection equipment, etc.</small>			
Employee Name or Title/Grade	\$ Per Hr		Total Cost
SCC Crews--2 saw hitches \$42,000 (\$21,000.00 per hitch).	\$ -		\$ 42,000.00
Contracted Engineer Trail Design estimate for Three locations \$100,000.00	\$ -		\$ 100,000.00
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
<small>For CPW use only: Approximate number of workhours</small>	#DIV/0!		Category Total \$ 142,000.00

II. Project Materials/Supplies <small>Identify as: Signs, rock, lumber, paint, nails, printing, maps/guides, education materials, etc.</small>			
	Price Per	Quantity	Total
Fuel for UTV	\$ -		\$ 500.00
Repairs for UTV	\$ -		\$ 500.00
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
			Category Total \$ 1,000.00

III. Equipment <small>Identify as: Trail Dozers, ATV/UTV, motorcycle, chainsaws, winches, field equipment rentals, equipment fuel, repairs, and operations, etc.</small>			
	\$		\$
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
			Category Total \$ -

III.A. FLEET Equipment <small>Identify as: Crew Fleet Vehicles/Trucks monthly FOR & USE, Fleet Equipment monthly USE.</small>			
	\$		\$
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
			Category Total \$ -

IV. Contracted Services <small>Identify as: Youth Corps, NEPA, planning, engineering, construction contractor/subcontractor costs</small>			
	\$		\$
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
			Category Total \$ -

V. Volunteer Support <small>Identify as: <i>For Volunteers Only</i> 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.</small>			
	\$		\$
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
			Category Total \$ -

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

Total	\$ 143,000.00
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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.

Project Name	Archuleta ATV Trail Project (Phase 2)	Project Sponsor	Rio Grande National Forest (Conejos Peak 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:
Rio Grande National Forest Service/ Forest Service Plan

Date: May 2020

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

Date and title of document:

36CFR 220.6 (d) (4) Repair and Maintenance of Roads, Trails, and land line boundaries. FSH 1909.15 Affective Date May 28, 2014.

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.]

For more information contact:

4. The next planning process that may affect this project is planned for 2023.

The Travel Management Plan is anticipated to be completed by sometime in 2023.

Print or type Land Manager's Name and Title

Andrea M. Jones, District Ranger

11/28/2022

Land Manager Signature and Title

Date

PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA

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

The Southwest Conservation Crew (SCC) is a multi-faceted crew that will focus on trail repair, clearing and improvements on the Archuleta Trail, using hand tools and chainsaws. The project is needed so that we can plan for the current and future improvement needs of the Archuleta Trail. In addition to SCC hand crews, we will need a trail design contractor to design a blueprint that will show the exact needs of the trail. The State OHV Crew in 2019, determined the work that is needed in terms of getting rid of outcrops of heavy rocks, excavation of areas in need of culverts, and other trail drainage needs. The work that they did is useful, but a more accurate assessment is needed to determine a detailed plan and a reasonable cost estimate. The long-term goals of this project are to protect and improve riding opportunities on the trail system that is in disrepair, and to keep this trail open to multi-use traffic and prevent damage to the adjacent landscape resulting from users getting off the trail. USDA Forest Service crewmembers will continue to educate all trail users on Tread Lightly, Leave No Trace, and Multiple-Use principles and as resource managers, we feel this is essential to ensure resource sustainability and protection and additionally keep the trail systems open, safe, scenic, and usable for years to come. Due to budget shortfalls, this project will be possible only if this application is successful.

Additionally, the Forest Service will continue to promote state OHV registration requirements and explain to trail users the purposes and goals of the OHV registration program. The Forest Service will work to promote the OHV users right-to-ride by mitigating any OHV resource impacts and promoting sensible regulations. Lastly, Forest Service will organize, outfit, oversee, and participate in motorized trail improvement events with interested volunteer groups.

This project is a priority because the CPRD only has one designated ATV trail on the entire district. It is utilized by a growing number of motorized recreation enthusiasts on a seasonal basis for several reasons: There has been a rapid increase in the popularity of motorized recreation both within Colorado and nationwide. The CPRD offers riding experiences for enthusiasts of all abilities and all ages. Because of lack of funding, the Archuleta Trail has been low on the list of trail maintenance priorities.

This trail has been used by both ATV and single-track motorized groups for decades as a recreation destination and as a hunting destination. The trail is also used by horsemen and hikers. It is truly a multi-use trail. Its popularity has resulted in the ongoing expansion of OHV use, of both single track motorized and ATVs. The trail has attracted both local and out of state users to the area. To estimate the amount of OHV users on the Archuleta Trail is difficult although from many years of personal observations, since the 1990's, I could estimate an 80% increase in motorcycles use and 80% increase in ATV use. This trail has become more and more popular via word-of-mouth information informing an increased number of users about this appealing trail. To direct and manage motorized growth, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) has created and published a Motorized Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) which regulates all motorized travel on the CPRD. The creation of a comprehensive Travel Management Plan for the Rio Grande National Forest is in the foreseeable future. We plan to involve the surrounding community and OHV users with collaboration, education, maintenance projects and special events. As land and resource managers we feel that the improved trails, consistent maps and signage, and the educational activities that this project will afford us would improve safety, trail conditions and continue to promote a positive OHV recreation image and opportunity within the Rio Grande National Forest, the state of Colorado, and beyond.

This project will continue to draw new motorized users to the area because of the satisfaction with the good condition of the 16 miles of ATV/single track Trails that the CPRD has to offer. The increase in area visitors brings more revenue into local, rural communities via increased lodging, dining, fuel receipts, equipment rental, and gear purchases to name a few.

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

The partnership with SCC will draw members from, and be managed by, the SCC Leadership and the USDA Forest Service CPRD. As such, this crew will combine the strengths and knowledge of each entity in addressing area OHV issues. Another important anticipated partner is the Trails Preservation Alliance. They are very interested in assisting us in the funding aspect and also as volunteers.

In support of partnerships, the CPRD will also strive to establish and/or enhance relations with numerous area OHV user groups. The CPRD will continue to partner with the main local motorized group, the Boot Hill Club, to enhance local trails. The CPRD will also partner with many private OHV related businesses. In particular, the crew will strive to partner with the local sheriff's departments, The Colorado Division of Wildlife, and area search and rescue teams, as these three groups are involved in a significant number of OHV related needs within the CPRD each year. The CPRD will also continue to support the existing partnership with the Volunteer Outdoor Colorado (VOC), an organization that works with the Rio Grande National Forest to employ a volunteer coordinator who will assist us in finding specialized volunteer groups, and scheduling work projects with these groups.

See attached letters of support from some of these critical partners.

Leverage:

(Please see the attached budget request for a detailed list of the necessary components of this grant request and their proposed funding sources.)

The land management partners of the CPRD will bring a significant amount of leverage to this grant request. Specifically, the SCC will also provide an in-kind match of \$5,250.00 for a saw crew/week for four weeks. This project will not only improve local recreation and environmental amenities, but it will engage local Colorado youth in service work, job training and environmental education. The Forest Service will provide Leadership and mentorship for SCC operations. The USFS will also provide \$5220.00 dollars in cash for labor for five Forest Service employees. The Forest Service will bring its own specific knowledge and skill in developing and maintaining ATV routes and educating users in appropriate land stewardship. This follow-up will greatly leverage this project and demonstrate commitment to enhancing ATV recreation within the CPRD.

In addition to the above listed items, SCC will also provide training opportunities for crewmembers to develop their technical trail building and public contact skills. Forest Service members are trained in USFS Forest Protection Officer duties, motorized trail construction and maintenance, proper OHV riding techniques, chainsaw operation and safety, first-aid and CPR, and appropriate tool and equipment maintenance techniques. Moreover, each crewmember will be trained in appropriate policies, public relations skills, and all pertinent Forest Service land use guidelines.

One of the primary goals of the Forest Service will be to develop a more active OHV volunteer presence within the local community. The support letters from the Southwest Conservation Corp, the San Luis Valley Great Outdoors (SLVGO), and the Archuleta County Commissioners, indicate the local interest and support of motorized groups. The SCC will specifically work with these trail groups and agency representatives to improve motorized recreation by identifying and repairing motorized trails, by mapping and potentially constructing new motorized routes, and promoting and advertising motorized community events. These trail groups and agency representatives will also be relied upon for their input on future trail construction and maintenance projects. Finally, OHV groups will be solicited to adopt certain sections of existing trail via the Adopt-A-Trail program that the CPRD is currently in the process of implementing.

There is strong evidence to support the concept of developing new volunteer activities within the CPRD, as each year more volunteers and more volunteer groups come forward to help in the collective maintenance of area public lands. For example, the Boot Hill Club and the Colorado Backcountry Horsemen's Association, have expressed an interest in sustaining the planned project work through continued annual maintenance. We predict that annually, at least 10 volunteers will work together to improve recreation opportunities on the Archuleta Trail within the CPRD. Moreover, the Archuleta County Commissioners Office and local law enforcement entities have repeatedly supported recreational efforts managed by the Forest Service on the CPRD.

In cooperation with the ongoing efforts of other area volunteers, the Forest Service will participate in all planned clean-up and/or motorized route repair and improvement events. The Forest Service will also work to integrate new OHV groups into any future events. In total, through the Forest Service and the VOC volunteer coordinator and with the existing and potential volunteer groups, we will bring together a broad range of motorized and non-motorized recreation enthusiasts with the intention of reducing multiple-use conflicts, beautifying, and conserving the resources that surround the Archuleta Trail. In turn these efforts will help the Forest Service manage these landscapes.

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

(25 points):

Overall, the CPRD will conduct maintenance, repair, and education efforts along approximately 16 miles of the Archuleta Trail. Along with volunteer groups and partners, the CPRD Recreation Crew will assist in the repair and maintenance of the 16 miles of the Archuleta Trail on an annual basis. The CPRD will also install educational signage at the Archuleta Trailhead. Crewmembers will provide the public with OHV route maps and OHV related literature regarding this trail. The CPRD Recreation crew will promote Tread Lightly and Leave No Trace practices in all formal and informal visitor interactions.

While conducting repair, maintenance, and educational activities within the described area on the Archuleta trail, trail conditions have become braided, rocky, and muddy in many locations. Without intensive repair and improvement efforts recreational travel on this trail could be restricted in the future. Without maintenance, attention, and monetary investment, this trail (and adjacent user created routes) will cause sedimentation and watershed issues. Investment into trail maintenance, user education, and signage will significantly decrease the potential for environmental impacts due to motorized use.

The CPRD will work closely with each of the recreation groups in the area to identify and prioritize projects. The crew will uphold all Federal route design and construction standards utilizing the USDA Forest Service Trail Construction and Maintenance Handbook for guidance. As appropriate and where possible, the CPRD will construct standard erosion control structures (including water-bars, rolling dips, check dams, culvert installation) and/or perform approved re-vegetation activities. This endeavor will include transplants, reseeding, route obliteration, etc. USFS recreation planning supervisors will examine and critique all completed repairs and improvements to ensure that the efforts have been effective and will prove to be sustainable and enjoyable to all recreational uses.

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

Travel Management.

The Rio Grande National Forest (RGNF) has completed the Forest Plan Revision. The current Forest Plan does not include a Travel Management Plan. Currently, the Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) documents what type of travel is allowed throughout the Forest Trails. The Rio Grande National Forest is currently working on a separate Travel Management Plan.

This project will employ the Education measure of Travel Management through ongoing signing at trailheads and visitor contacts. The information posted on kiosks will inform users on the types of uses that are allowed on the trail systems and the proper trail etiquette to be utilized when they encounter different types of users. Good signs, visitor contacts, and word of mouth from existing users will promote multiple uses on these trail systems. Using the UTV provided by this Grant, the Forest Service will maintain more visibility and be more available to all users to answer questions and disseminate travel management literature and maps. On these excursions, the Forest Service will also make sure that OHV regulations and trail designations are being adhered to.

This project will focus on the assessment of heavy maintenance needs on the multi-use Archuleta trail #741 on the CPRD. Along with trail maintenance we will work to keep the trail on the existing route. We will rehab existing resource damage and fix areas of the trail that could potentially cause resource damage in the future. In the process of clearing trail routes, we will, use on-site natural materials to close and rehab user created non-system routes.

The RGNF is committed to managing its trail system to the best of our ability. In times of declining budgets, the Forest Service will continue to seek out grant opportunities such as the OHV Grant in order to improve these trails to the Forest Service standard. This grant will act to jump-start the maintenance that is so badly needed on Archuleta Trail and to sustain those efforts in the future. The work that is planned on this trail, will provide a safe and satisfying experience for all its types of users.

Education

We have found that changes on the ground are readily noticed by the public and they often have questions about why the changes are being made and what the new rules are. That is why there is a need to provide an increase in Forest Service presence to not only educate the public about Tread Lightly ethics, but also answer questions about changes in the area and new rules due to the travel management plans. We have also found that the public expects roads and trails to be well-signed, but they also presume that motorized travel is okay on existing roads even if they aren't signed. With travel management plans this is no longer the case so control structures, physical closures, and restoration of routes are a necessary component of our overall OHV management program and combined with installation of signs would be a major duty of CPRD employees throughout this project.

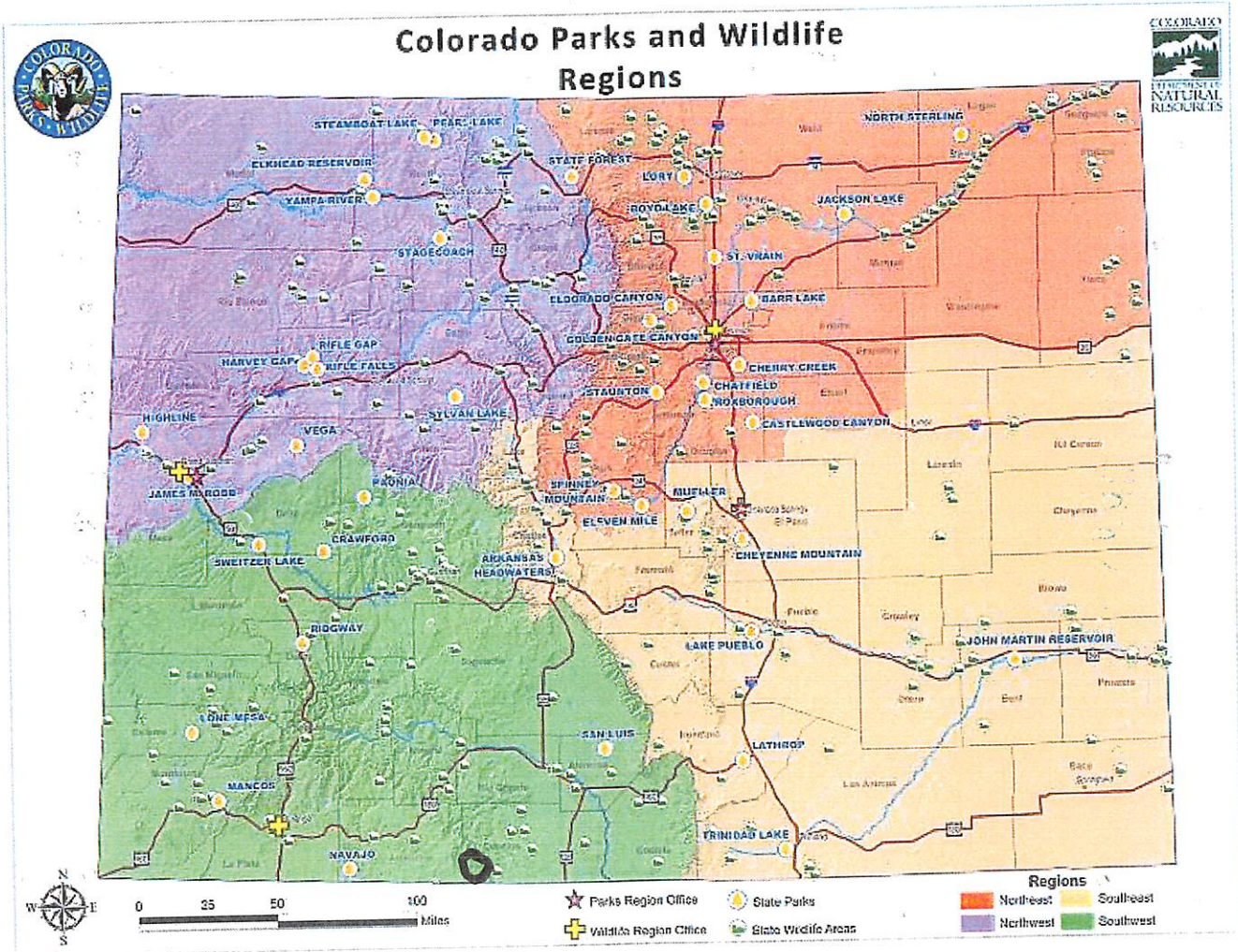
Enforcement and Compliance Activities:

Implementation of this project will provide a much-improved trail, making it more likely for ATV users to "stay the trail", reducing the amount of user created routes and resource damage. This will make it easier for law enforcement to target the rare cases where users are going off trail.

Implementation of this project will provide a plan for a much-improved trail, making it more likely for ATV users to "stay the trail", reducing the amount of user created routes and resource damage. This will make it easier for law enforcement to target the rare cases where users are going off trail.

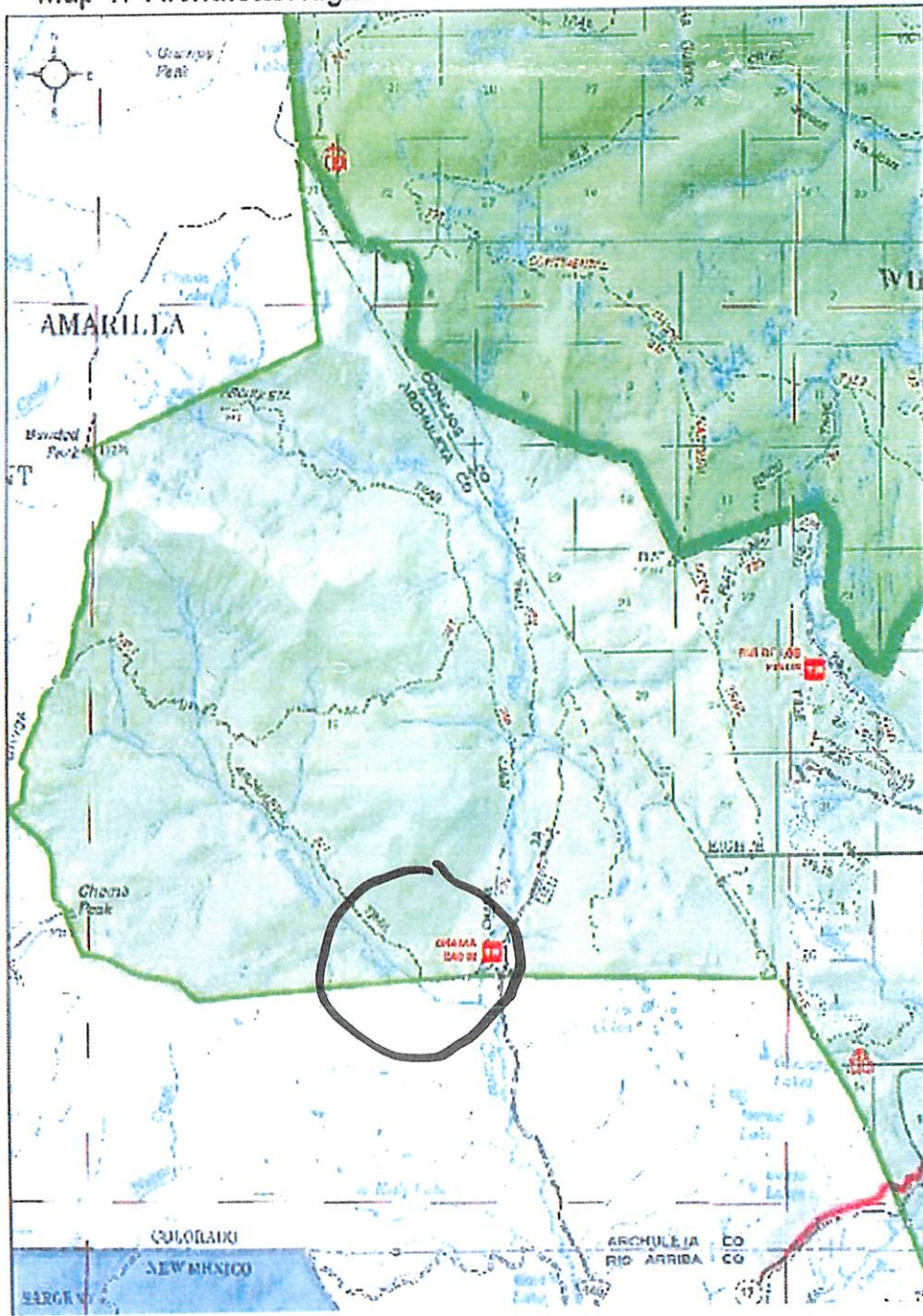
E-1 Vicinity Map & E-2 Project Site Map

E-1 Vicinity Map: Please mark the vicinity where the project is located on the map below.



E-2 Project Map: Please provide a map identifying the specific trail-work area or project site.
(Make 12 copies to include in your application packet)

Map 1: Archuleta/Hughes Motorized Trail In Archuleta County

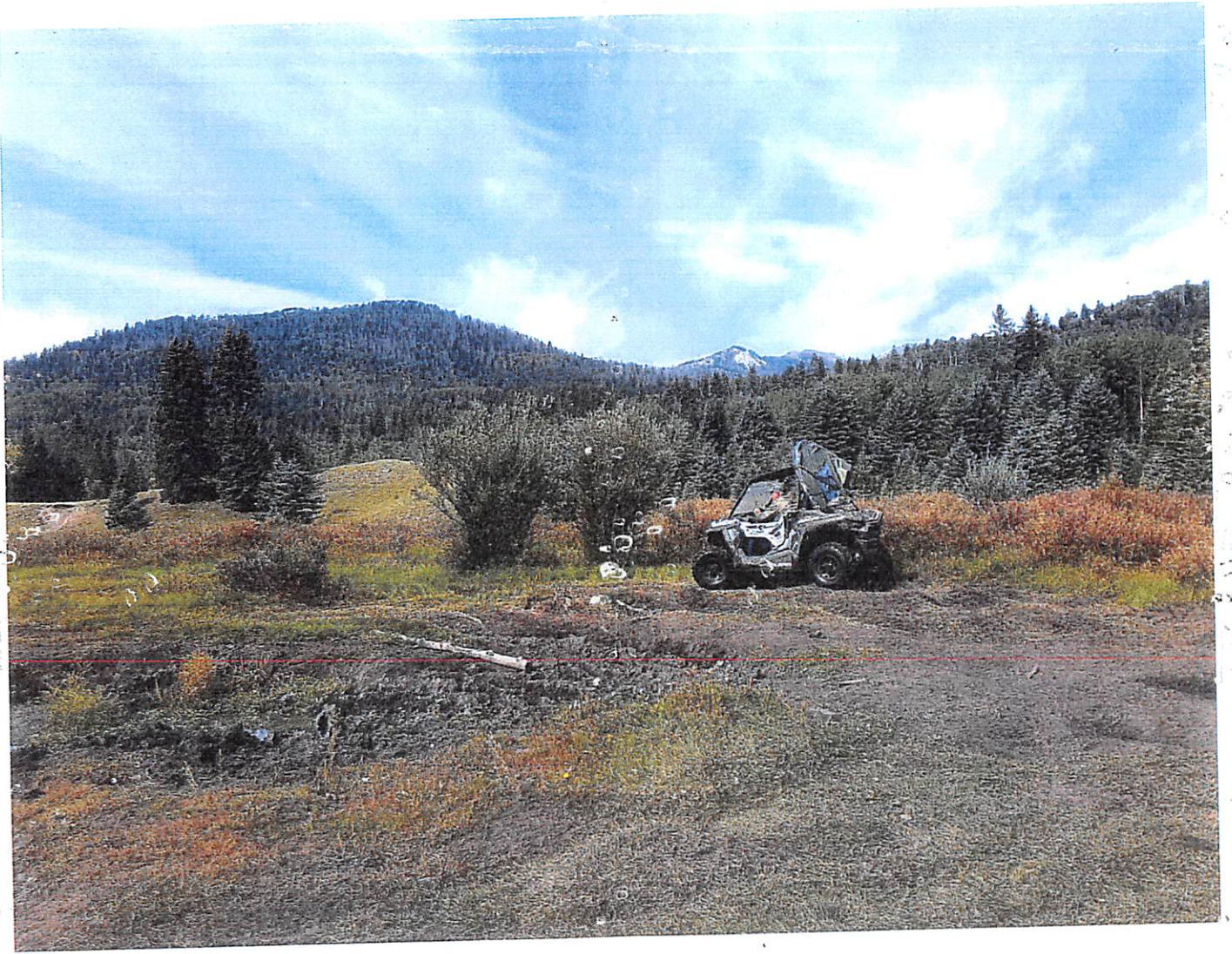


(F) Project Illustration

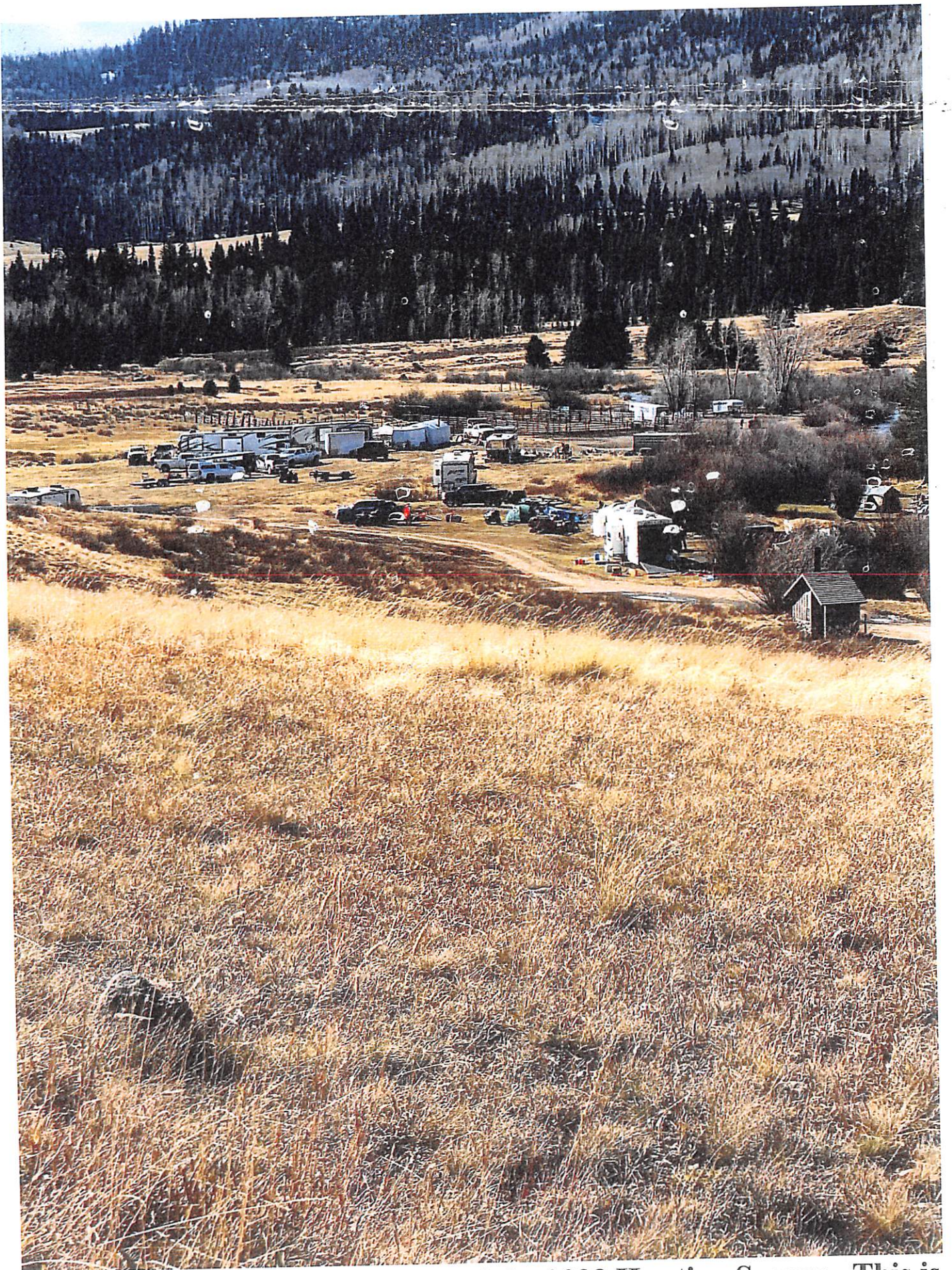
These photos illustrate some of the needed work. This project will enable us to do general maintenance and pin point all of the problem areas of the Archuleta Trail #741.



Braided trail due to drainage issues



Ruttled road due to drainage issues.



Archuleta TH on the last day of the 2022 Hunting Season. This is Extremely popular trail.



Beetle kill downfall across the trail. This is an annual issue.



Rutted road due to drainage issues.



Braided trail due to drainage issues



**SOUTHWEST
CONSERVATION CORPS**
A program of Conservation Legacy

November 18, 2022

Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Tom Metsa, OHV Program Manager
13787 South Hwy 85
Littleton, CO 80125

Dear Grant Review Committee:

I am pleased to submit this letter in support of the Archuleta Trail project with the Rio Grande National Forest. This project has inspired considerable community support and will address critical maintenance needs on a heavily used trail in the Chama Basin.

As stated in the grant application, the USDA Forest Service will work to design a plan to repair and improve the only existing ATV trail within the Rio Grande National Forest/Conejos Peak Ranger District (CPRD). Southwest Conservation Corps Los Valles (SCC-LV) crews are prepared to complete the tread repair and tree removal to address the current braided and rutted trail conditions. SCC-LV has a record and reputation for completing high quality project work while promoting environmental stewardship and education of participants, users, and the communities they serve.

SCC-LV and the CPRD have a long and well-established history of successfully partnership together. I appreciate your consideration of their proposal and strongly recommend it for funding.

Sincerely,

Anna Hendricks
Los Valles Director
Southwest Conservation Corps
719-580-3272
ahendricks@conservationlegacy.org
www.sccorps.org



Dear CPW State OHV grant committee,

This letter serves as the San Luis Valley Great Outdoors Coalition letter of support for the Conejos Peak Ranger District OHV 2023/2024 grant proposal. For the last 3 years, the SLV GOATs have implemented over 15 projects with the BLM - SLV FO and Rio Grande National Forest, ranging from campground improvements, trail/boardwalk construction, trash pick-up, and trail maintenance on all types of trails.

The Conejos Peak Ranger District and the SLV GO! Coalition are in alignment to accomplish this next phase for outdoor recreation opportunities via OHV trails in our SLV region. Achieving responsible recreation in these ways provides benefits two-fold; by protecting natural and cultural resources and providing an avenue and place for the community and visitors to recreate outdoors.

SLV GO! also supports this project because it will take place on the Archuleta Trail # 741 in the Chama Basin. The USDA Forest Service will work to design a plan to repair and improve the only existing ATV trail within the Rio Grande National Forest/Conejos Peak Ranger District (CPRD). We believe this work is important to ensure trails stay open and accessible to the public.

A contracted trail design crew will be sought out through a bidding process to design a plan to improve the existing Archuleta Trail #741. The trail as it exists is braided and rutted and in desperate need of clearing and tread repair. They also hope to fix the erosion problems that are damaging the resource/landscape and causing sediment to empty into the Chama River. The project was identified because of this trail's heavy use, especially during the Fall hunting seasons.

Thank you for your consideration of this project.

Mick Daniel
San Luis Valley Great Outdoors
Executive Director



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO**

P.O. Box 1507 / 398 Lewis Street / Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147
Tel (970) 264-8300

November 22, 2022

Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Attn: Tom Metsa, OHV Program Manager
13787 South HWY 85
Littleton, CO 80125

RE: Archuleta Trail Project

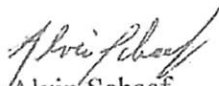
Dear Grant Review Committee:

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners is pleased to write this letter of support of the Archuleta Trail Project. This project will benefit the ATV Trail users of Archuleta County and beyond. The reason that this project is being initiated is to provide ATV users with a challenging and safe place to recreate. The other reason is to provide a durable trail that will correct the braiding and drainage issues that have caused a lot of erosion and damage to the natural resource. The Forest Service plans to initiate the project by clearing and maintaining the trail. They then plan to hire a trail design crew to design a blueprint to repair the drainage and tread problems within the trail's existing footprint.

This is the only ATV Trail on the Rio Grande National Forest/Conejos Peak Ranger District. A Successful Colorado Parks and Wildlife OHV Grant will go a long way in ensuring a safe and durable trail for years to come.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this grant application.

Sincerely,


Alvin Schaaf
Chairman

File Code: 2300
Date: November 28, 2022

Tom Metsa
Colorado Parks and Wildlife OHV Program Manager
13787 South Hwy 85 Littleton, CO 80125

Dear Mr. Metsa and Committee Members,

Please accept this letter of support for the Rio Grande National Forest – Conejos Peak Ranger District's (CPRD) application for a State OHV Trail Grant. The proposed grant objectives will improve a popular existing OHV system trail, improve accessibility, support resource protection, and improve the visitor experience. OHV use is one of the most popular forms of recreation on the Forest, funding this project will support the only 50" trail on the district.

For the last several years, thousands of trees have fallen across trails throughout the Forest and we anticipate this challenge to continue. Maintaining and improving access on the Archuleta Trail #741 will support multiple uses by allowing the public to have access to fishing, hunting, camping, and hiking. Contracting this project out to a CYCA allows youth to provide a meaningful contribution to public lands through stewardship. Contracting the trail design out to a professional will ensure that the trail is designed to industry and agency standards.

This project is in alignment with the Forest's Management Plan and the agency's National Strategy for a Sustainable Trail System. As the neighboring district to CPRD, we recognize the value this project will bring to the local community and its visitors. We would ask that you strongly consider this application for funding.

Sincerely,

X *Kevin Duda*

KEVIN DUDA
District Ranger

