



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

Name of Project: HPBE OHV Trail Crew 2024 and Good Management Request		Date of Application: 11/18/2022
<i>(Please limit the project name to 5 words or less)</i>		
Total Project Cost: \$122,000 <i>(round off to the nearest \$1)</i>	Grant Request: \$105,000 <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: Routt National Forest, Hahns Peak / Bear Ears Ranger District		
Mailing Address: 925 Weiss Drive, Steamboat Springs, CO, 80487		
	Fax: 970-870-2284	
Telephone: (970)819-5060	Email: eli.rosenstein@usda.gov	

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: Eli Rosenstein / David Mucklow		Title: Recreation Ops / Forestry Tech(Trails)
Mailing Address: 925 Weiss Drive, Steamboat Springs, CO, 80487		
Telephone: (970)819-5060	Fax: 970-870-2284	Email: eli.rosenstein@usda.gov / David.Mucklow@usda.gov
		Is this the primary contact for this grant: YES NO

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: Eli Rosenstein		Title: Recreation Operations
Mailing Address: 925 Weiss Drive, Steamboat Springs, CO, 80487		
Telephone: 970-819-5060	Fax: 970-870-2284	Email: eli.rosenstein@usda.gov

GRANTS & AGREEMENTS SPECIALIST (USFS only) or BUDGET CONTACT (BLM only)		
Name: Karla Swenson		Title: Lead Grants Management Specialist
Mailing Address: 203A Yellowstone Ave, Cody, WY, 82414		
Telephone: 307-219-8233	Fax:	Email: karla.m.swenson@usda.gov

M-V-M-WA

PROJECT LOCATION	
Nearest Town or City: Steamboat Springs, CO	
County(ies): Routt, Moffat	
Township/Range/Section: T8-12N; R83-89W	
State Senate District #: 8	
State Representative District #: 56	
LAND OWNERSHIP	
1. Provide the name/s of the property owners:	
2. The trail corridor is controlled by: <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Other (explain): _____	
TRAIL SYSTEM INFORMATION (List the number of miles for each type of OHV trail in your area)	
Miles of Singletrack: <u>44</u>	Miles of 50" or less: <u>122</u> Miles of Full-sized: <u>500</u>
TRAIL USER INFORMATION (Please check all that apply to the work planned for this project)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All-Terrain Vehicle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Side x Side <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full Sized 4X4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motorcycling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Four-Wheeling <input type="checkbox"/> 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 checked="" 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.)
70	
5	Enforcement, Education & Visitor Contacts (e.g., patrols, enforcement, education and visitor contacts, wages, safety contacts, equipment, etc.)
5	Planning & Travel Plan Implementation (e.g., planning, engineering, maps, inventorying, travel management signs & installation, decommission non-system routes, rehabilitation, new construction, wages, monitoring, etc.)
20	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: HPBE OHV Trail Crew 2024	Project No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Project Sponsor: USDA - Routt National Forest, HPBE	Application Year: 2024-2025
Project Contact: Eli Rosenstein	Application No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Total Project Cost: \$122,000	Grant Request: \$105,000

Project Description: Please write a brief description of your project and the expected accomplishments. Be sure to include Who, What, When, and Where. This is your scope of work. (This section is not for project background, benefits or anything other than the actual work to be accomplished. Please address this information in question #2 of section D, Project Selection Criteria.)

Project Description:

This project will fund a Hahns Peak/Bears Ears Ranger District (HPBE) trail crew to work on OHV trails and other recreation sites related to OHV use such as trailheads. Work may involve reconstructing of OHV trails and related facilities, produce, install, maintain signage for OHV trails and support facilities, education and rider ethics training to the OHV riding community, maintain, operate facilities owned by the USDA Forest Service used by OHV recreationists, implement approved federal Travel Management Plans, and provide a field presence for visitor contacts. This crew may also support other district programs when related to managing OHV use on district.

The HPBE Ranger District of the Medicine Bow and Routt National Forests (USDA Forest Service) will hire, train and supervise a 3-5 person crew. Work will begin in May of 2023 and end in October 2023. The crew uses 1 crew cab ¾ ton Forest Service truck full time, 1 quarter ton truck part time, an enclosed trailer with Stay the Trail graphics, 6-7 dirt bikes, 1 UTV, 1 ATV, a trailer dozer and a mini excavator to access and complete work on OHV trails (if equipment and training are available). For the field season of 2022, the crew consisted of 3 FS seasonal employees, along with supervision from the District Recreation Operations Manager. For 2023 and 2024 the district would like to continue to have three or four seasonal employees on the crew. Also, the district hired a Lead Forestry Trails Technician, David Mucklow, who will assist in supervising and leading the crew starting in 2023. The crew would also like to partner with volunteer organizations to complete projects.

The personnel and equipment will be used on motorized trails and routes throughout the Ranger District. Some work will also occur on the neighboring Yampa Ranger District and Parks Ranger District. All work will occur on National Forest System lands on the Routt National Forest, with the majority occurring on the HPBE Ranger District, the Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) for HPBE. Local communities served include Steamboat Springs, Clark, Hayden, Yampa, and Oak Creek in Routt County, and Craig, CO, in Moffat County. These trails are also open to non-motorized uses, thus a benefit to the public. All lands are administered by the USDA Forest Service.

On the HPBE Ranger District the crew will spend much of their time in North Routt, which is from Seedhouse Road (FS400) to the Wyoming state line and from the Continental Divide (coincides with Ranger District and county boundaries) to California Park County Road 80. Other areas of work include the Bears Ears, Buffalo Pass, and Rabbit Ears. The crew will also work on the Morrison Divide Trail on the Yampa Ranger District.

Projects will include maintaining existing trails, replacing aging trail infrastructure (bridges, turnpikes, width restrictors), addressing problem areas, improving infrastructure, replacing OHV trail signs, educating

and enforcing rules and regulations, educating “Stay the Trail,” and working with volunteer organizations to improve OHV trails on Forest Service lands near Steamboat Springs, CO.

If resources and training allow, the crew will utilize equipment, including a mini excavator (owned by Timberline Trail Riders/Mountain Trails Axxess), and a trail dozer (owner by Yampa Valley Trail Riders). Projects with the machines will be focused on reconstructing tread and improving drainages. If new trail construction projects are approved and NEPA is completed, a few new minor construction projects may occur.

Crew focus during the season will be:

- May-July: training, clearing trails, helping with seasonal gates openings/closing and repair, and removing hazard trees for infrastructure related to OHV use.
- July-September: maintaining trails and OHV routes, clearing drains and blowdowns, replacing signs, and completing larger projects as logistics dictate.
- September-October: completing larger projects and addressing issues that arise during the season if time allows.

Program Funding Acknowledgement – The Routt OHV Trail crew has an enclosed trailer with “Stay the Trail” and CPW acknowledgements posted on the outside. All news releases of projects completed will include acknowledgement of CPW grant funding and partner involvement with Mountain Trails Axxess or other motorized partners. Dollars at Work stickers are placed on all dirt bikes and signposts. Crew members also educate the importance of registration for non-compliant OHV users.

Good Management Request

The Hahns Peak/Bears Ears Ranger District has had a CPW funded OHV Trail Crew since 2002. In 2019, the HPBE Ranger District lost its Good Management Standard status. Over the past three years we believe the crew has improved back to Good Management Standards. Over the past 4 years, the crew has taken a comprehensive approach to maintaining OHV trails and trying to maintain priorities of projects to support OHV trails and related facilities on the Routt National Forest. Prior to 2020, the HPBE OHV crew focused on basic routine maintenance – riding every trail and clearing drains and cutting trees.

For the 2020-2022 seasons, the HPBE OHV crew has met routine trail maintenance needs and focused on more substantial maintenance projects. Some of these projects include:

- three minor reroutes around eroded hazardous sections,
- reestablished tread and benching on the Nipple Peak and Prospector trails,
- built turnpikes to protect wetlands,
- dealt with a large blowdown event,
- improved signage on OHV Trails/routes, and along dispersed camping sites popular with OHV users to enforce MVUM and protect sensitive resources such as wetlands and meadows.

The crew is also aware that OHV registrations are important to maintain the grant program and checks and educates OHV users on the importance of registration.

Over the past four years the HPBE OHV crew has worked with the local club Mountain Trails Axxess on multiple projects including:

- Annual spring log out event,
- Diamond Park Bridge Replacement,
- Minor reroute on Whiskey Creek
- reconstruction of tread and drains for a half mile of Diamond Park Trail 1152,
- Assisted FS staff on machine use on Pioneer Loop 1149.1B, 1149, and 1149.1C.

The crew has also adjusted plans based on information from the club, public and State staff on emerging trail issues that often arise during the season.

In 2023, 2024 and beyond, the district is going to focus on emphasizing larger maintenance projects and is willing to work with users and clubs on deciding the project priorities. Every season is a balancing act of ensuring trails are clear of fallen trees (which can be a tall task with extensive beetle kill) and completing larger projects. Below are the larger projects the crew will attempt to complete in 2023 and 2024. In 2024 the district would also like to utilize machinery more to maintain OHV trails.

1. Ellis Trail
 - a. Culvert/Turnpike
 - b. Bridge 1 Heading south from 500
 - c. Bridge 2
 - d. Remove loose rock between 509 and 409.
2. Farwell Connector
 - a. 100ft turnpike
 - b. Big Singletrack Bridge
3. FS 305 Gate
 - a. Replace gate and build 30' singletrack turnpike around gate for dirt bikes.
4. West Nipple Peak Trail
 - a. Build or replace bridge or bridges
5. CDT/WY from Diamond to Hare
 - a. Finish (if needed) rock pulling from first trail
 - b. Install metal width restrictor
 - c. Work on hill just before Hare Trail
6. Whiskey West
 - a. Develop a solution for mud spot on steep side hill near start by 508 road.
7. Independence
 - a. Brush and build drains coming out of creek.
8. Ellis Jeep Trail
 - a. Work with MTA or other club to make trail challenging for Jeeps.
9. Host an education event at large parking lot/Trailhead off NFSR 550 north of Columbine

Budget Form

Project Name: HPBE OHV Trail Crew 2024

Date Project will be Completed: 11/30/2024

Project Sponsor: USDA Forest Service - Routt NF, Hahns Peak - Bears Ears RD

*****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)			\$105,000.00
Other Funding Sources	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FS Funded HPBE Supporting Staff Time for training, crew support and OHV project support (Rec Staff, Rec Manager, Trails Supervisor)	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000.00
Vault Pumping at 550 Bathroom and Seedhouse OHV Trailhead	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000.00
FS Funded Fleet (trucks, trailers, OHVs)	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000.00
USE OF GRANT FUNDING <small>List uses of grant funding (only) below</small>	TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT		\$122,000.00

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
Experienced Lead Crew Member GS 5 or 6 or 7	\$ 23.63			\$ 20,790.00
Experienced Equipment Operator Crew Member GS 5 or 6 or 7	\$ 21.50			\$ 18,920.00
Crew Member GS 3, 4 or 5	\$ 19.25			\$ 16,940.00
Crew Member GS 3, 4 or 5	\$ 19.25			\$ 16,940.00
Full Time Employees Eli Rosenstein, David Mucklow, GS11 overtime project over	-			\$3,000
Travel				\$ 2,500.00
Training (CPR/First Aid, FPO, Chainsaw, Dirt bike)				\$ 1,000.00
	\$ -			\$ -
<small>For CPW use only: Approximate number of workhours</small>	3,390.05		Category Total	\$ 80,090.00
II. Project Materials/Supplies <small>Identify as: Signs, rock, lumber, paint, nails, printing, maps/guides, education materials, etc.</small>				
	Price Per	Quantity	Total	
Tools, Drills, saws, digging tools, Dirt Bike Attachments	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 3,610.00
Bridge Materials	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 5,000.00
550 Bathroom Lot 2 Panel Kiosk Woodproducts	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 3,500.00
Dirt PPE	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 2,000.00
Sign Order	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 800.00
			Category Total	\$ 14,910.00
III. Equipment <small>Identify as: Trail Dozers, ATV/UTV, motorcycle, chainsaws, winches, field equipment rentals, equipment fuel, repairs, and operations, etc.</small>				
Trail Dozer and Mini Excavator Maint	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 5,000.00
Dirt Bike, UTV Maint	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 5,000.00
			Category Total	\$ 10,000.00
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	\$ -
			Total	\$105,000.00

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

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	HPBE OHV Trail Crew 2024	Project Sponsor	Hahns Peak/Bears Ears 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:

- The project as described in this application has my approval.
- 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:

Routt National Forest Land Resource Management Plan; 1997 Revision	Date:	2/1998
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- A decision has been issued as part of the NEPA environmental review process.

Date and title of document:

N/A

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.]

No site specific NEPA needed: maintenance of existing OHV trails.

For more information contact:

Eli Rosenstein 970-870-2277

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

Michael Woodbridge, District Ranger

Print or type Land Manager's Name and Title

MICHAEL WOODBRIDGE	Digitally signed by MICHAEL WOODBRIDGE Date: 2022.11.29 09:59:18 -07'00'	11/29/2022
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Land Manager Signature and Title

Date

D-1

PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA

Carefully read and provide answers to each of the following four criteria (four page maximum):

All applicants must respond to the following selection criteria questions. You are allowed the space below each question to fill in your answer. If you have an answer that does not fill the entire page, do not feel obligated to fill the space. This application will be scored on a 100 point basis. The maximum number of points that can be awarded for each question is shown in parentheses. Each project will be reviewed by outside reviewers and State Trails staff, and projects will be ranked according to reviewer and staff scores. Failure to provide a response to any question (unless otherwise noted) will reduce your project's score. Please reference all attachments.

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

Describe the objectives of your project and how it will benefit, and protect riding opportunities while protecting resources in the project area. (Use the following as a guideline for describing your project)

- *What specifically will the project accomplish?*
 - *How will the project protect or improve riding opportunities?*
 - *Will it provide essential maintenance to keep OHV riding opportunities available? Please describe maintenance history for this specific area.*
 - *Describe how this project will foster and promote a satisfactory and challenging riding opportunity for OHV enthusiasts?*
 - *Why is this project a priority at this time?*
 - *Provide an estimate of how many and what types of OHV enthusiasts will benefit from the project?*
 - *Describe how this project will provide long term value and sustainability?*
-
- HPBE OHV Trail Crew 2023 will maintain the existing motorized trails on Forest Service Lands in Routt and Moffat counties. Trail work will include cleaning drainage features, brushing corridors, rebuilding and grading tread, removing downfall, hardening tread surfaces, educating OHV users about regulations, implementing Travel Management, and working with community groups.
 - In 2022, the HPBE OHV Trail Crew cut over 1,000 trees from OHV routes or facilities, created 53 new drainages and cleaned 1,380 drains, reconstructed 2,655 feet of trail, and installed or maintained 46 signs. Continued funding is crucial in keeping our OHV routes cleared and maintained annually.
 - The crew operates a variety of equipment to be successful in maintaining OHV routes, including dirt bikes with chainsaws and trail tools attached, ATVs and mini excavator/trail dozer for heavy trail maintenance projects.
 - The HPBE OHV crew mostly focuses on the North Routt motorized trail system. Continued funding for this crew is critical to continuing to maintain these trails to a high standard and minimize resource concerns.
 - Trail work is needed to protect current trails from erosion and harden key spots of tread to lower the potential for user-created and/or water erosion ruts in the trail. Correcting maintenance needs on an annual basis reduces more severe erosion, which can result dangerous riding situations, costly repairs, and major resource impacts.
 - All OHV trail users will benefit from the trail work including dirt bikes, ATVs and UTV users. There are 44 miles of motorized singletrack, 122 miles of 50" or less, and 500 miles of full-sized width trails on the HPBE Ranger District.

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

Provide evidence of support for this project from trail users, agencies, local governments, community groups, or individuals and attach letters or petitions to your application packet. Applicants need to demonstrate that the project has a broad spectrum of support. Letters from the following entities are encouraged: relevant political subdivisions with jurisdiction over the project area, conservation organizations, user groups who frequent the area, and community organizations. The program places a higher value on the quality of supporting correspondence submitted rather than the quantity of support letters received. **(Use the following as a guideline for describing your project)**

- Describe all agencies, groups, clubs or organizations who are partners on the project. Will the project utilize volunteers or youth group services?
- Are you aware of any controversy this proposed project has caused, if at all, in the local community?
- Create a narrative or a list that includes the amounts and sources of additional (non-grant) funds, in-kind services, materials, and any other items that will be used as leverage in your project:
 - Donations, contributions, materials and other ways that this project will be leveraged
 - Describe the types of funds that will be contributed to the project
 - Itemize any funds received from other grants or sources
 - Provide your total project cost, including the total amount of all grant funds, use of volunteers, donations, and any additional contributions mentioned in your narrative

HPBE OHV Trail Crew works with the following groups

- Mountain Trails Access (MTA): HPBE has partnered with MTA on volunteer projects, such as logging out OHV routes, re-constructing trails and completing general motorized trail maintenance.
 - In 2022, MTA and FS partnered for the annual Spring Cut Day.
 - MTA also provided leadership and training for an RMYC training project while there were three projects and RMYC crews would rotate between the projects each day.
 - MTA is the current manager of equipment from previous CPW equipment grants through Timberline Trail Riders. Equipment includes an enclosed trailer, motorcycles, and the mini excavator with trailer.
- Rocky Mountain Youth Corps: In 2022 and 2020 The Routt OHV crew partnered with RMYC trail crews to complete maintenance projects that were also pre-season training for RMYC crew. This gave the US Forest Service 640 volunteer hours on OHV trails. HPBE staff also provides training for RMYC chainsaw crews.
- Other OHV partners include Yampa Valley Trail Riders, who allowed the district to utilize a trail dozer
- Yampa Ranger District recreation and trail crew, who will need assistance clearing their OHV trails.
- Routt County Riders (RCR): RCR is primarily a mountain bike club. RCR has cleared motorized trails mostly on Buffalo Pass. Trails include GWB and the motorized section of Flash of Gold. RCR has also teamed up with mountain bike race/events organizations mid-season to clear motorized routes for their events. RCR has contacted HPBE about completing projects on motorized trails for 2023 and 2024.
- The Forest Service provides in-kind contributions by providing daily supervision of the crew. It also covers the FS fleet FOR cost for the crew's main truck, along with another truck part-time, 2 dirt bikes, and an ATV. Along with other specialty tools such as a Pionjar, come alongs, rigging and a grip hoist.

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

(25 points):

Describe the principal objectives that will be accomplished by this project (e.g., new trail construction, trail relocation or major re-route, trail maintenance, restoration/rehabilitation or any other grant eligible activity). Include as many components as are applicable. Show how the project aids in the protection or improvement of the environment by addressing existing problems and avoiding or minimizing impacts through the implementation of the project. **(Use the following as a guideline for describing your project)**

- Will this project promote the protection, clean up, rehabilitation or avoidance of sensitive environmental resources such as wildlife habitat or wetlands in the project area? If so, explain how.
- Will the project include re-vegetation of eroded areas or trail that will promote the long-term protection of sensitive or critical resources? If so, explain how.
- Will the project construct or improve drainage structures to prevent erosion or repair damage from excessive runoff, or harden and/or bridge stream crossings and wet areas?
- Describe any indirect benefits this project proposal will have on critical resources in the project area.

NEW Trail Construction vs. Major Trail Re-Route

New Trail Construction:

- In the case of new trail construction, provide documentation that shows all required environmental reviews are completed or indicate the current status of that work.
- Under what TM Decision the work is being performed.
- Provide a description of new trail construction.
- Provide detailed map showing the new trail location and length.

Major Re-Route: Defined as trail work that will require new and/or additional environmental approvals. (Minor re-routes taking place on an already approved trail corridor will not be considered a major re-route, as described here.)

- Provide the number of miles or feet that are being re-routed and why.
- Provide a detailed map of where the trail re-route is located, showing old/current route and proposed re-route.

- All work completed falls under the Categorical Exclusion 36 CFR 220.6(d)(4) Repair and maintenance of roads, trails, and landline boundaries, which excludes maintenance work completed by the HPBE OHV crew from needing additional site specific NEPA analysis.
- It is critical to annually maintain drainage structures and reconstruct eroded sections of trail in the motorized trail system to sustain a high-quality user experience and limit resource impacts (watersheds) from erosion.
- User-created routes can cause significant erosion and/or impact other resources (wildlife, vegetation, wetlands). The crew will restore the routes and make them impassible to avoid adverse resource impacts. If needed a Forest Service resource specialist will be consulted for input for best restoration practices. The crew also educates users on Stay the Trail etiquette and Travel Management regulations and how to navigate using the Motor Vehicle Use Map using smart phone apps like Avenza or COTREX. In 2022 the crew closed an established illegal route in the Bears Ears Area.
- Most of the work the crew completes is maintenance. This includes improving drainage features, encouraging drainage of trails through design adjustments, hardening sensitive features such as stream crossings, and maintaining trail features like bridges.

Large Equipment Purchases, Maintenance and Disposition:

Large Equipment purchased with OHV funding must have commitment to Long-Term Maintenance and Operations and must only be used for OHV Trail Maintenance Activities. When not in use, equipment will be made available for use on other OHV projects currently or previously supported by CPW. When equipment is no longer in use or needed, it should be passed on to another OHV Club, the BLM or Forest Service, or returned to CPW to insure continued OHV trail maintenance activities. Describe provisions to be made for the following:

- *Who will be responsible for the operations and maintenance of the equipment?*
 - *What is the expected annual budget for operations, maintenance and fuel?*
 - *How many (machine) hours are needed to maintain the trail system?*
 - *What is the expected annual cost for future operations and maintenance, and will that be dependent upon additional OHV grants?*
 - *What is the plan for equipment when not in use or when no longer needed?*
- Dirt bikes and any equipment used for OHV trail work will be maintained either with OHV Grant funds outlined in the budget plan or paid for with Forest Fleet funds.
 - Large equipment maintenance will be funded with grant funds.
 - Projects materials will also be funded by this grant such as bridge stringers, decking and hardware.

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

Active and effective OHV management is based upon the implementation of travel management plans, broad public awareness, compliance, enforcement and providing adequate recreation opportunities. Describe how the project will promote active OHV management and improve OHV use for the benefit of public land visitors. To receive a full score of 25 points for this category the project must incorporate at least one of the following components. **(Use the following as a guideline for describing your project)**

Travel Management:

- The crew will maintain Travel Management signage across our OHV riding areas to improve the navigation abilities of OHV users. This ensures that open trails are clearly marked with what use is allowed keeping motorized singletrack narrow and 50" trails at 50".
- The HPBE OHV crew manages the open system of motorized trails based on the Medicine Bow–Routt National Forests Travel Plan and restores non-system routes to minimize resource impacts.
- Long-term management of our motorized areas is addressed in the MBR NF Travel Plan in addition to the Routt NF Forest Plan.
- Many of the OHV trails on the Hahns Peak/Bears Ears Ranger District are often used by other user groups such as hikers, runners, equestrians, and mountain bikers.

Education

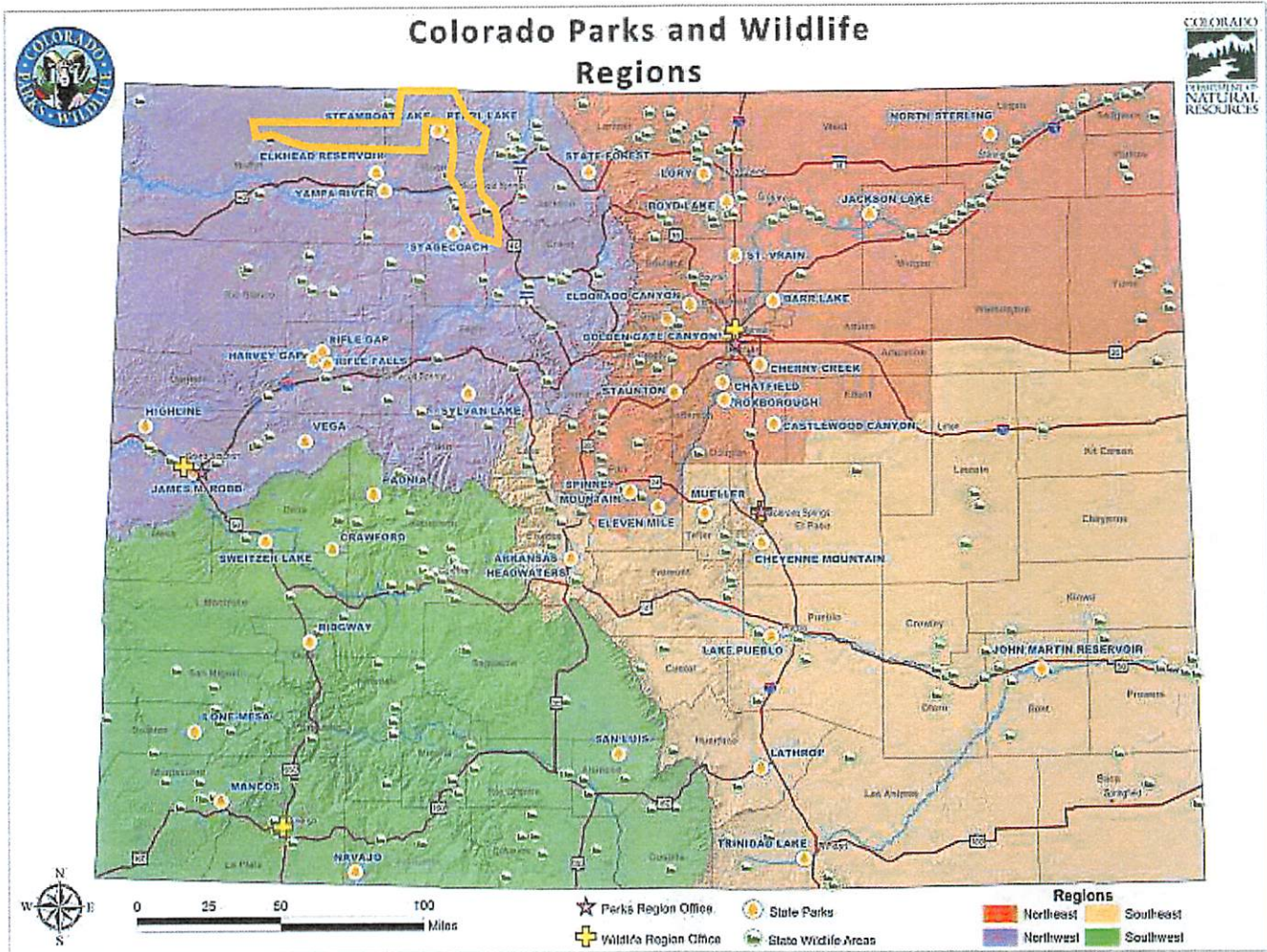
- The HPBE OHV crew educates all trail users on proper multi-use trail etiquette on motorized trails to cut down on user conflicts. Stay the Trail and Tread Lightly guidelines are used. One of the projects for 2024 will be to conduct an education event.
- Stay the Trail and Dollars at Work stickers will be placed on crew's equipment.

Enforcement and Compliance Activities:

- All members in the trail crew will be trained in educating trail users on rules and regulations, as well as tactics in getting compliance.
- HPBE OHV Trail Crew is planning to have 1 or 2 crew members certified as Forest Protection Officers in addition to the crew lead being a Forest Protection Officer. FPOs will complete compliance and enforcement while they are out doing maintenance on the motorized trails. On holidays and busy weekends FPOs will be available to patrol when there is a higher volume of OHV users on motorized trails that are likely from out of town and need education about local OHV related regulations.
- All trail crew members, FPOs, and LEOs who make contacts will record their contacts. The trail crew lead will compile the recorded contacts, provide a summary of types of contacts, type of trail user, whether a violation notice has occurred, number of warnings, and number violation notices issued.

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)

1:24,000 scale map OR a Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM)
That clearly shows roads, trails, streams, management area boundaries, and other significant natural and developed features in the vicinity of the project.

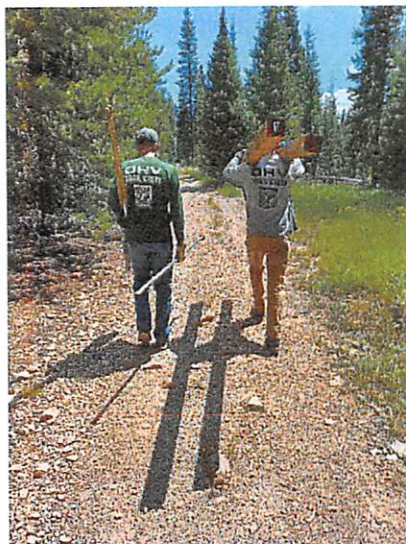
(F) Project Illustration

Photographs, Drawings, Engineering Plans, Diagrams

Provide project illustrations or photos to further demonstrate the needs of the project.

Items to consider including may be:

- Photos (4-6) of the project area or photos of another project's outcome that illustrates what you will do for this project
- Engineering drawings of the project
- Diagrams/plans of the project



Replacing signposts. The crew will need to continue this work in 2024

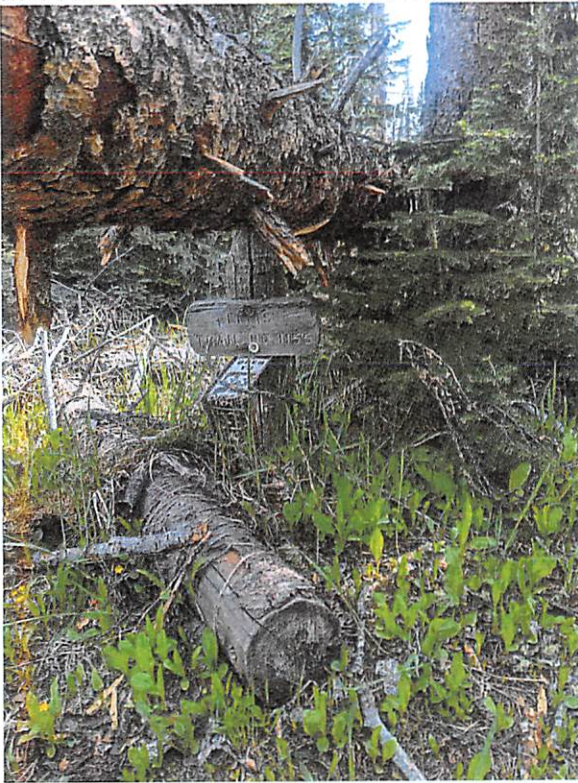


Timberline Trail Riders

The crew utilizes a Stay The Trail trailer owned by



MTA and FS worked with RMYC to harden sections of trail in 2022.



This district was hit hard by the beetle kill epidemic. It is often a challenge just to keep trails clear of fallen trees. We assume 2024 will be just as hard as every other season.

(G) Letters of Project Support

Provide up to six (6) letters of support from entities that are supporting the project in ways other than cash or in-kind contributions. Letters should come from at least three of the categories listed below. Letters must be current, and must document the need and demand for the proposed project. Please note, identically worded form letters do not sufficiently fulfill this requirement. All letters must be included with the application. Letters mailed directly to the State Trails Program will not be accepted as letters of support for the application, rather they will be treated as public comments on the project as proposed.

- Adjacent land owners
- Federal, county, city and private land owners
- Individual users or user groups
- Partners and/or cooperators

November 17, 2022

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



Re: HPBE OHV Trail Crew Grant Request

Dear Mr. Metsa and the OHV Grants Subcommittee,

We are writing **on behalf of Routt County Riders (RCR) in support of the Hahn's Peak - Bears Ears Ranger District OHV Trail Crew grant request.** RCR is a non-profit 501 c(3) organization that advocates to implement positive change for cyclists in Northwest Colorado. One of the strategies to achieve our mission is to increase the diversity of local cyclist amenities through infrastructure and civic engagement - and by supporting projects such as this one.

RCR works closely with our local Forest Service (and CPW) office each year, partnering up to achieve shared goals when it comes to creating and maintaining recreational experiences on our local public lands. While RCR mostly advocates for non-motorized multi-use trails, there is a good amount of crossover in the trail inventory around Steamboat Springs that is accessed and loved by both off-highway vehicles and traditional mountain bikes at the same time. To add to this, there are often shared resources used to maintain these trails, such as volunteer chainsaw crews made up of mountain bikers clearing motorized race routes for the Revolution Enduro series in the summer of 2022. We are in favor of boosting our local community's ability to access outdoor experiences, regardless of what form of transport might bring them to the trail.

We support the HPBE OHV Trail Crew Grant Request and we will be happy to see our local Forest Service adequately staffed to handle the large amount of work and maintenance on our local trail system in coming seasons.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Laraine Martin
Executive Director
Routt County Riders

Craig Frithsen
President, Board of Directors
Routt County Riders

To Whom It May Concern,

Steamboat Lake Outpost and Vista Verde Guest Ranch would like to support the Hahn's Peak/Bears Ears Ranger District OHV Trail Crew by requesting a grant from the State of Colorado for maintenance, construction, and improvement of the OHV trail system within the Routt National Forest. This crew is essential to the user experience, and we strongly support the continued and expanded funding of the crew. With adequate funding, the crew can clear trees, mitigate destructive erosion, improve signage, educate users, and hopefully rebuild and expand the trail system. The high number of users relative to the dedicated trail maintenance creates an increased ecological burden on the forest. It diminishes the ability for all users to have safe, fun adventures.

Our businesses rely on great experiences on the trail system within the Routt National Forest. Although our crews do a significant amount of trail clearing and maintenance to be good stewards of the land and provide a great guest experience, we need help. Not only does high quality trail maintenance improve OHV activities but sets up for better grooming in the winter for ski and snowmobile trails. We not only facilitate guided and unguided OHV rentals, but we are the launching pad for adventure in the North Routt area. All kinds of recreational users depend on high quality trails. Better trail conditions mean we can confidently recommend places for our guests to enjoy the outdoors. The better our guests' experience, the more appreciation they have for what the USFS does for them, hopefully leading to more informed users and recreationists that want to care for our natural spaces.

As we are all aware, many OHV trails are multi-use. I depend on these crews to clear trails for my hiking and mountain biking trips. There is often animosity between motorized vs. non-motorized users. Still, if we take a step back and realize the support that OHV users and maintenance have for the quality of our trails, we can have a deeper understanding and an appreciative view of each other. These two businesses have significant equestrian programs, too, which benefit from quality trail building and maintenance. Conversely, over the years, I have seen many of the trails open to motorists degrade to the point where they are essentially unusable. These trails used to be incredible for guests and me, but the lack of maintenance and erosion control has made it so I would never take a guest there. Even though our permits still allow us to use specific trails, the inability to maintain the trails is cutting back on our options to give guests high quality trips into the National Forest.

Funding the Hahn's Peak/Bear's Ears Ranger District OHV Trail Crew is vital to the Routt National Forest, its ecological health, and the success of the businesses that depend on providing guests with outdoor adventures. Improved and expanded trail systems limit erosion and off-trail use, provide safer user experiences, and foster stewardship by the people that recreate in our National Forests. Because of these reasons, Steamboat Lake Outpost and Vista Verde Guest Ranch strongly support and recommend the funding of this trail crew.

Sincerely,

Ben Simms, GM Steamboat Lake Outpost & Ben Martin, GM Vista Verde Guest Ranch