



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

Name of Project: Columbine Good Management OHV Program		Date of application: 11/17/2022
<i>(Please limit the project name to 5 words or less)</i>		
Total Project Cost: \$98,115.00	Grant Request: \$69,395.00	
<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: Columbine RD, San Juan NF		
Mailing Address: PO Box 439, 367 Pearl St		
Bayfield, CO 81122	Fax: 970-884-2428	
Telephone: 970-884-1429	Email: brenda.waddell@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: Brenda Waddell			Title: Recreation Specialist		
Mailing Address: PO Box 439, 367 Pearl St					
Bayfield, CO 81122					
Telephone: 970-884-1429		Fax: 970-884-2428		Email: brenda.waddell@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: Brenda Waddell			Title: Recreation Specialist		
Mailing Address: PO Box 439, 367 Pearl St					
Bayfield, CO 81122					
Telephone: 970-884-1429		Fax: 970-884-2428		Email: brenda.waddell@usda.gov	

GRANTS & AGREEMENTS SPECIALIST (USFS only) or BUDGET CONTACT (BLM only)					
Name: Lindsey Burkett			Title: Grants Management Specialist		
Mailing Address: 15 Burnett Court					
Durango, CO 81301					
Telephone: 970-385-1259		Fax:		Email: lindsey.burkett@usda.gov	

PROJECT LOCATION		
Nearest Town or City: Bayfield, Durango, Silverton		
County(ies): Archuleta, Hinsdale, La Plata, San Juan		
Township/Range/Section: T 34-39N, R 5-10W, N.M.P.		
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: <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>42.50</u>	Miles of 50" or less: <u>90.33</u>	Miles of Full-sized: <u>17.50</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 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 <i>environmental</i> approvals) miles / ft. added _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Signs	
	<input 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		
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.)	
80		
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.)	
10	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: Columbine Good Management OHV	Project No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Project Sponsor: Columbine RD, San Juan NF	Application Year: 2023-2024
Project Contact: Brenda Waddell	Application No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Total Project Cost: \$98,115.00	Grant Request: \$69,395.00

Project Description: The Good OHV Management Crew will develop, maintain and improve OHV trails, trailheads, parking and support facilities, reconstruct OHV trails and related facilities. They will produce, install, maintain signage for OHV trails and support facilities. In addition, the crew will develop, deliver, provide education and rider ethics training to the OHV riding community, along with maintaining, suppling, and operating facilities owned by the USDA Forest Service and BLM which are used by OHV recreationalists. In conjunction, they will implement approved federal Travel Management Plans and provide a field presence for visitor contacts, compliance, and enforcement.

WHO: This Good Management Grant application has been submitted by the Columbine Ranger District (RD) of the San Juan National Forest (SJNF), a land management unit of the USDA Forest Service.

All groundwork associated with this grant application will be performed by a seasonal workforce of Forestry Technicians (GS-0462-4s) who will report to and work alongside of the GS-0462-5 Trail Crew Lead and the GS-0462-7 Trails Foreman for guidance and direction on motorized, multi-use trail maintenance and reconstruction priorities. The desired crew size is two crew members, dedicated for the season, to OHV projects and one additional crew member for half the season to assist on larger projects. This will allow the dedicated crew members to work on designated OHV trails and projects giving a stability to the program throughout the entire season. Thus, adding to the knowledge-base of use due to increasing the frequency of their contacts with the riding public and creating an opportunity for other trail personnel to learn from specialist in OHV trail system maintenance. The crew will also assist with OHV related kiosk and sign management, visitor contacts and non-system route closures as needed.

On-the-ground OHV trail improvement and reconstruction efforts will also be supplemented with a crew from the Southwest Conservation Crew (SCC). It is one of our primary objectives to ensure trail improvements, heavy maintenance activities and reconstruction efforts are implemented annually. To reduce the volume of deferred trail maintenance and ensure labor intensive projects are completed in a timely fashion, we will employ a crew from SCC for a three-week period as part of our FY 2024 Good Management grant application. Specific trail project assignment(s) are to be determined in the spring of FY24 based on need and FY23 accomplishments.

WHERE: The Columbine Ranger District of the San Juan National Forest is in southwestern Colorado, in the following counties: Archuleta, Hinsdale, La Plata and San Juan. Of note, there are no OHV trails located in the Hinsdale County portion of the district. The Ranger District is comprised of approximately 720,000 acres with nearly 150 miles of motorized, multi-use trails: 42.50 miles of single-track motorcycle, 90.33 miles of two-track ATV and 17.50 miles of 50-inch-plus wide Jeep trails. The district manages 699 miles of trails total. Work will be performed on designated system motorized single-track, two-track and Jeep trails across the district. Work may also include areas impacted by unauthorized motorized use and associated areas in need of rehabilitation, and site stabilization. Please refer to the attached maps in grant application section, E-1.

WHAT: The continuing goal of the Columbine Ranger District's Good Management Trails Program is to improve the recreational experiences of motorized trail users, mitigate resource damage, and increase voluntary compliance through education, engineering, sign placement, and route improvement, without changing the diverse character of the OHV trail system.

The trail crew funded by this grant application will open (log-out) and maintain approximately 75 miles (50%) of the 150 miles of designated motorized, single-track, two-track OHV and Jeep trails found across the Columbine Ranger District.

The crew will also perform heavy trail maintenance, reconstruction, and monitoring on designated system motorized, multiple-use trails. Our goal is to perform heavy maintenance and reconstruction, site stabilization and rehabilitation on approximately 4.5 miles (3%) of the trails network during the field season. All work performed will be in compliance with USDA Forest Service Trail Standards for motorized single-track, two-track, and Jeep trail (50"+) standards.

A secondary goal is to further increase compliance with travel management regulations via visitor contacts and education, as well as law enforcement actions if needed. As part of this goal, illustrating the benefit of OHV registration is a key component to our educational interactions with trail users.

The Good Management Trails Program staff who have the collateral responsibilities of a Forest Protection Officer (FPO), can and will work performing law enforcement assignments. An FPO is authorized to cite Class B misdemeanors, collect information, and assist Federal Law Enforcement Officers (LEOs) in felony citations.

Funding this grant will also provide for materials and supplies, PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) carsonite signage, fuel, ATV, skid steer and trailer upkeep and maintenance, vehicle expenses and other miscellaneous needs to keep our OHV program operating.

WHEN: All work will be performed during the FY2024 field season, from April to November.

Program Funding Acknowledgement: We truly appreciate the continuing support we receive from Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) OHV Program and do our best to share our appreciation and acknowledge CPW as a funding source when interacting with the public or improving motorized trails.

Education about and acknowledging the CPW's role in maintaining motorized multiple-use trails ties into one of our primary goals. We strive to impress upon the public the benefit of registering their motorized equipment, and how funding can improve trail conditions where they recreate.

Funding is acknowledged verbally (when interacting with trail users, both motorized and non-motorized), with "Work Ahead" and "Funded by State OHV Registration" signs placed at worksites. Carsonite signposts on motorized, multiple-use trails are stickered with "Colorado OHV Registration Dollars at Work". We have also placed the blue and white Colorado Parks and Wildlife "Colorado OHV Registration Dollars at Work" decals on all equipment purchased with OHV funds to further illustrate the partnership and support between the Columbine Ranger District and Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) OHV Program.

OHV Trails Program Strategies: Observations made over the last four years show the need to alter access criteria in certain areas to perform trail maintenance and or heavy maintenance and reconstruction activities throughout the season. This simply means being flexible with the scheduling of work on certain trails, it is expected to be the new normal on the National level. Forest priorities will continue to focus on the benefits for all programs and the public. On the Columbine RD, these actions are primarily co-located within 38% of our 150 miles of OHV trail. We are coordinating our efforts and prioritizing work in Beaver Meadows to maintain the area for safe and enjoyable public use.

For Budget, please see attached excel spread sheet.

Budget Form

Project Name: Columbine Good Management OHV Program

Date Project will be Completed: 12/31/2024

Project Sponsor: Columbine RD, San Juan NF

*****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)	\$ 69,395		\$ 69,395.00
Columbine RD, San Juan NF		\$ 28,720.00	\$ 28,720.00
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
USE OF GRANT FUNDING <small>List uses of grant funding (only) below</small>	TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT		\$ 98,115.00

I. Personnel Costs

Identify as: Salary/wage, benefits, *travel, training, outfitting costs, personal protection equipment, etc. Non-Profit organizations will be required to purchase

Club Member/Employee Name or Title	\$ Per Day	Number of days allocated	Total Cost
Trail Crew Member, GS-0462-04	\$ 149.47	80	\$ 11,958.00
Trail Crew Member, GS-0462-04	\$ 149.47	80	\$ 11,958.00
Trail Crew Member, GS-0462-04	\$ 149.47	40	\$ 5,979.00
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
<small>For CPW use only. Approximate number of workhours</small>	200.01		Category Total \$ 29,895.00

II. Project Materials/Supplies

Identify as: Signs, rock, lumber, paint, nails, printing, maps/guides, education materials, etc.

PPE, handouts, carsonite signposts, building materials(culverts, geo-technical building fabrics, rebar, concrete, lumber, hardware, etc.), fuel, tools, etc.	\$	Quantity	Total	\$
	\$ 4,000.00		\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
			Category Total	\$ 4,000.00

III. Equipment

Identify as: Trail Dozer, ATV, motorcycle, chainsaws, field equipment rentals, equipment fuel and repairs, fleet vehicle operations, etc.

Ditch Witch SK-650, ATV's, trailers, and associated equipment maintenance and repair (annual inspections, oil, filters, hydraulic fluid,etc.)	\$ 4,000.00		\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
			Category Total	\$ 4,000.00

III.A. FLEET Equipment

Identify as: Crew Fleet Vehicles/Trucks monthly FOR & USE, Fleet Equipment monthly USE.

	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
			Category Total	\$ -

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.

	\$ -			\$ -
	\$ -			\$ -
	\$ -			\$ -
			Category Total	\$ -

VI. Contracted Services

Identify as: Youth Corps, NEPA, planning

Southwest Conservation Corps (SCC) 8 person crew	Price Per Week			
	\$10,500	3		\$ 31,500.00
			Category Total	\$ 31,500.00

VII. Grant Administrative Costs (Non-profit organizations only)

Identify as: administrative costs, office supplies, postage, phone charges, computer & printer supplies, etc. (Up to 5% of amount spent)

	\$ -			\$ -
	\$ -			\$ -
			Category Total	\$ -

			Total	\$ 69,395.00
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* Non-profit organizations that reimburse travel expenses will be required to use OHV Program Travel Forms - provided upon request
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.

Project Name Columbine Good Management OHV Program Project Sponsor Columbine RD, San Juan NF

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:

The San Juan National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan Date: September, 2013

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

Date and title of document:

Hermosa Creek Watershed, Recreation and Travel Management Project Decision Notice: 12/19/2017

La Plata Canyon-Junction Creek Landscapes Travel Management Decision Notice: 7/9/2012

Beaver Meadows-Sauls Creek Landscapes Travel Management Decision Notice: 4/26/2010

Amended Lakes Landscape Travel Management Decision Notice: 3/11/2009

Northern San Juan Basin-Record of Decision: 4/4/2007

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.]

Not applicable

For more information contact:

Brenda Waddell, Recreation Specialist, 970-884-1429, brenda.waddell@usda.gov

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

April, 2023

Print or type Land Manager's Name and Title

Elizabeth Francisco, Acting District Ranger, San Juan National Forest

Handwritten signature and date: Elizabeth Francisco, 11/15/2020

Columbine Ranger District Good Management OHV Program Planned Scope of Work for FY 2024

FY 2024 is projected to be a very productive year. We will have a different structure to the Trails Program with a new Trail Crew Foreman, GS 7 and a new Trail Crew Lead, GS 5, both permanent employees, coming on in FY 2023 adding depth and bringing experience to the OHV program. These additions will help us continue the great work ethic already in place and help us move forward with maintaining a sustainable OHV trail network on the Columbine Ranger District.

OHV Trail Crew Objectives:

- It is our desire to hire and retain a diverse cadre of capable and motivated individuals to staff our crew.
- We will ensure all crew members are well-trained and have a good understanding of safe workplace practices.
- All new employees will be trained and returning employees will receive refresher training prior to working in the field on OHV trail assignments.
- Each crew member is encouraged to challenge themselves, learn new skills, and expand their knowledge, skills, and abilities.

Training Sessions:

Though disruptions due to Covid remain a possibility we plan to implement the following training opportunities for the trail crew.

- District orientation, and general orientation to the Columbine RD and the San Juan NF.
- OHV accomplishment reporting, OHV daily trail log input, and purchasing and accounting procedures.
- Basic 1st Aid, CPR, use of an AED, Blood Borne Pathogens (BBP), and impromptu litter construction with patient transport.
- Check-in / Check-out procedures and back country overnight trip itineraries.
- Use of 2-way radios and Garmin Inreach units.
- Operation of the Ditch Witch SK-650 mini skid steer, its attachments, maintenance, and upkeep. Instruction will include new maintenance protocols to address fuel quality and performance issues.
- ATV operation, safety, Personal Protection Equipment (PPE), ATV (T-C-L-O-C) inspection, maintenance, and upkeep.
- Defensive driving, trailer towing, loading/off-loading, load securing procedures, trailer maintenance and upkeep.
- Chainsaw operation, situational awareness, safety, PPE, felling and bucking training. Saw maintenance, upkeep, and fuel "geysering" avoidance procedures.
- Will also be performing on the job training for tread and drainage maintenance. With more technical trail operations, advanced procedures and building techniques being illustrated and employed as projects present themselves.

OHV Trail Program Strategies:

The Columbine Ranger District has hired a new Trail Crew Lead, she will be starting in November of 2022 and are in the process of hiring a new Trail Crew Foreman to take over the recently vacated position. This will give us a very stable foundation going forward. We are excited to be expanding our Trails Management Staff and looking forward to building a successful team.

OHV Trail Program Goals:

As illustrated during the past several field seasons, accomplishments will be affected by crew size, strengths, and capabilities with safety being an overarching principle. For FY 2022 we had a completely new crew. Due to the freshman level of trail expertise for two of the crew, the FY 2022 crew completed many projects and did them well; however no advanced projects were undertaken. We hope to turn this around for FY 2023 with the new Trails Foreman and Crew Lead overseeing the field going aspects, heading out into the field with the crew and able to tackle more complex projects. This in turn will give us a foundation to build on for FY 2024. Our recent hiring event showed a drop of roughly 25% for applications, however we hope to fill all our positions for FY 2023.

OHV Maintenance Targets:

Maintain (log-out) 75 miles of motorized, multiple use single-track, two-track, and Jeep trails. Trails maintained and logged out will be surveyed for: signage needs, unauthorized spur trails, and environmental degradation This information will be utilized for planning purposes going forward. All trail maintenance will be performed to USFS OHV single-track, two-track, and Jeep trail (50"+) standards.

OHV Heavy Maintenance and Reconstruction Targets:

Heavy Maintenance and Reconstruction target: 5-7 miles of trail. This includes minor realignments, construction of additional drainage features or reconstruction of existing drainage features, rebenching, berm removal, etc. All trail maintenance will be performed to USFS OHV single-track, two-track, and Jeep trail (50"+) standards. We have several projects which will require heavy maintenance and reconstruction.

The Southwest Conservation Corps (SCC):

Each year we allocate funding to place a crew from the Southwest Conservation Corps on a labor-intensive reconstruction project. For FY2024 we requested funding for three weeks rather than our usual two weeks to move forward and complete several projects.

OHV Heavy Maintenance and Reconstruction Priorities:

Highlighted outstanding project work.

Hermosa Special Management Area (SMA)

Hermosa Creek Trail #514 had a slide which significantly altered the motorized use of the trail. The slide is approximately eight miles from the north entrance and ten miles from the south entrance. I have included photos in section F.

Beaver Meadows Landscape:

Arbogas # 695, Jungle Connect, #702, Devil's Hole #707, Moon Lick Connect # 716, Rocky Canyon # 717 and Uncle Charlie # 719 all need rock crushing in multiple spots.

Bear Creek # 698 needs major drainage work.

First Notch # 620 needs extensive tread work.

HD Mountains:

Ute Creek Trail # 666 has washouts and erosion issues.

Visitor Contacts, Education and Regulation Enforcement:

A secondary goal associated with this grant-funded program is to further increase compliance with travel management regulation enforcement via visitor contacts, education and law enforcement as needed.

Lastly, we encourage all OHV Program Board Members, CPW staff and OHV Park Rangers to visit when in the area. We look forward to sharing our beautiful landscape and hard work with you. Our program and each of us appreciate your input, support, and truly value time spent discussing future opportunities to better facilitate the recreational experiences of trail users.

If more information is needed, please feel free to contact the Columbine Recreation Program staff.

Brenda Waddell
Recreation Specialist
970-884-1429 Office
Columbine Ranger District
San Juan National Forest
PO Box 439
367 Pearl St
Bayfield, CO 81122
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Columbine Ranger District Good Management OHV Program FY 2022 Accomplishment Report

As was true for FY 2021 we had a completely new crew for this year. The staff consisted of four seasonal employees all new to the Columbine Ranger District, with three of them new to the Forest Service and two of them completely new to a trails program.

Trail Crew Staffing and Training:

This year's crew had one person with previous SCC experience, and he was a great resource in the field. There was one person with limited trail experience for the Forest Service, but it was not with this crew or on this district. Our long-standing Trail Foreman, Don Kelly, moved on early this year and his knowledge of the trails will be missed. Due to the newness of our crew, we spent a lot of time in training early in the season. Trainings included trailer towing, ATV, and chainsaw with a review of USDA Forest Service Trail Standards and Trail Management Objectives (TMOs).

They also were a part of the Elk Creek # 503 blasting project and got much needed "eyes on" for that highly specialized type of trail clearing and maintenance issues should the need arise in the future.

Safety / Accidents:

It was a great year for safety with no accidents reported.

FY 2022 OHV Good Management Grant Targets and Accomplishments

The 2022 field season was a safe and productive operation for the Columbine Trail Crew. Funding from the OHV Good Management Grant was used to complete trail maintenance and heavy reconstruction on motorized single-track, two track OHV, and jeep trails on the Columbine Ranger District. This year, the Columbine Trail Crew were supervised by Recreation Staff Officer Jed Botsford from June-September. Lead Wilderness Ranger Kristina Schenck filled in as the supervisor for the crew following Jed's departure from the district in early September. Primarily, grant funds were used to pay for the district Trail Crew to perform work on motorized trails throughout the summer field season along with an 8-person crew from the Southwest Conservation Corps in late September.

FY 2022 OHV Good Management Accomplishments

- 65 miles of motorized trail logged out and maintained to standard
- All 65 miles of trail maintained were completed by the Columbine Trail Crew
- Target was 75 miles
- 1.1 miles of motorized trail improved with heavy maintenance and reconstruction
- Target was 4.5-7.5 miles
- 1 mile of heavy maintenance completed by the Southwest Conservation Corps on the Hermosa Creek Trail #514
- 0.1 miles of heavy maintenance work completed by the Columbine Trail Crew on Little Bull Creek Trail #683

Hermosa Special Management Area

The Columbine Trail Crew focused much of their maintenance efforts on trails in the Hermosa Special Management Area. This landscape was impacted by the 416 Fire in 2018 and trails in this area have been identified as high use due to their proximity to Durango and high priority as we continue to mitigate trail issues resulting from the burn. The crew focused mostly on clearing corridor as post-fire aspen regeneration has been very successful and narrowed the trail corridor along many sections of the 19-miles of the Hermosa Creek Trail #514. This is a popular motorized multiple use trail that includes sections of two-track and single-track, and improvements to corridor have been significant. Work mainly consisted of using chainsaws to brush out aspen saplings and other vegetation that were infringing on the trail.

Project highlights include the following accomplishments:

- 12 miles of trail maintained along the Hermosa Creek Trail #514
- 7 miles of the upper portion of the trail from the Hermosa Park trailhead to mile marker 7 near Big Bend Creek
- 4 miles of the lower section of trail from the Lower Hermosa Trailhead to mile marker 15.1 at the junction of Hermosa Creek #514 and Dutch Creek #516
- 6 miles of trail maintained on the Pinkerton-Flagstaff Trail #522

Additionally, the Southwest Conservation Corps completed work on the Hermosa Creek Trail #514 from the site of the Dutch Creek bridge washout to the junction with Dutch Creek at mile marker 15.1 project highlights include the following accomplishments:

- Benching and re-establishing trail tread along sections of single track that are eroding due to the trail's location on a steep side slope in a burn area
- Re-building check steps and drainage features near the Dutch Creek Bridge washout where stones from previous rock work were becoming loose or falling out of place due to erosion

Fall 2022

The Columbine Ranger District has hired a permanent seasonal trail crew lead that will be reporting in November. We have also extended the deadline for spending out funds to December 31, 2022. We plan to use 2022 grant funding to have the trail crew lead perform maintenance on motorized trails in late November/December if any trails remain accessible, as well as plan project work for 2023. Funding for personnel time is reflected in the project budget.

Trails Program Transition

Staffing has been our greatest challenge this season in implementing the Good Management grant. Though we had a 4-person trail crew, we did not have a dedicated staff member to focus primarily on the trails program. We worked through that issue by sharing responsibilities among the staff we did have. We appreciate the State Trails Program for their flexibility and understanding during this transitional period as we work to fill critical vacancies in the Columbine Trails program. For more information on work completed in the 2022 field season, please contact Kristina Schenck, Lead Wilderness Ranger at kristina.schenck@usda.gov. For the 2023 OHV Good Management grant, please contact Developed Recreation Staff Brenda Waddell at brenda.waddell@usda.gov.

The Columbine District Trail Crew removes a tree from the Hermosa Creek Trail #514 in the double-track section near the Upper Hermosa Trailhead in late September 2022



SCC reset a few stones that came loose from existing rock work on the Hermosa Creek Trail near Dutch Creek.



SCC also installed a few new check steps on the singletrack section of trail between Dutch Creek proper and the Hermosa Creek – Dutch Creek junction.



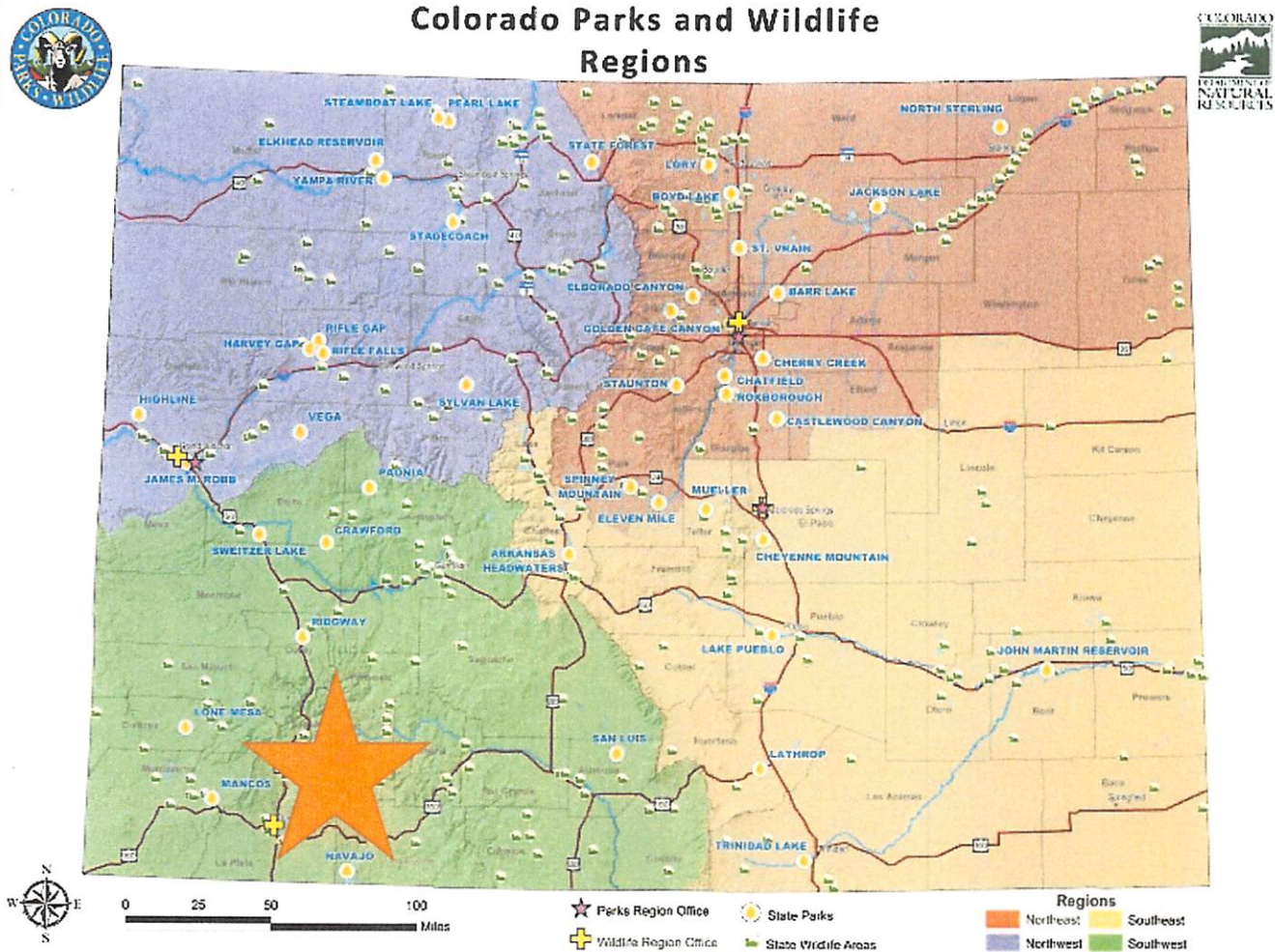


The scope of work for the SCC project included benching to widen the trail and re-establish sustainable, functional tread.



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

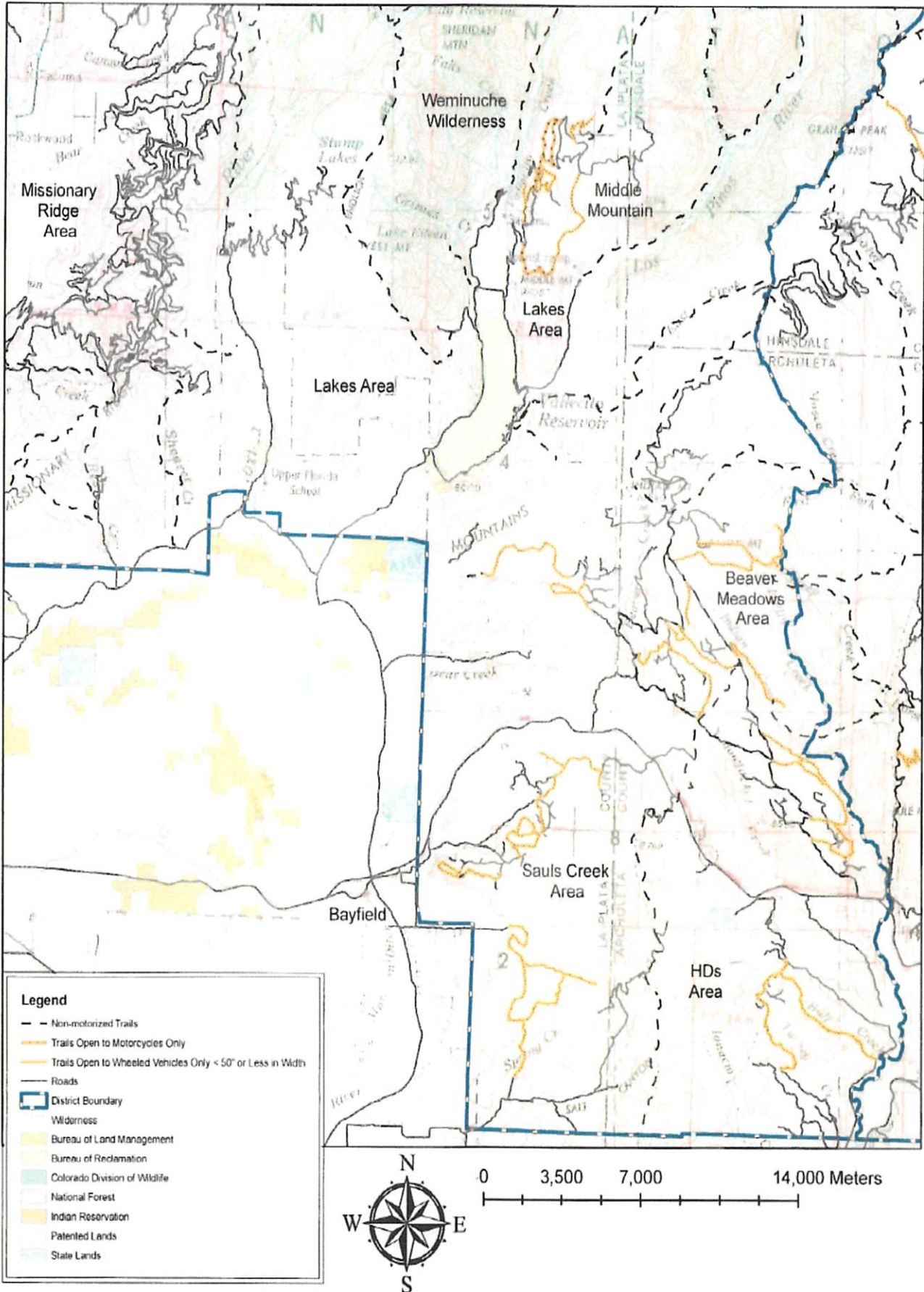
E-1 Vicinity Map: Please mark the vicinity where the project is located on the map below.



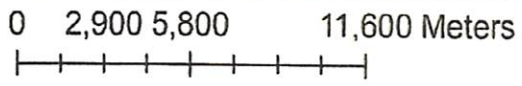
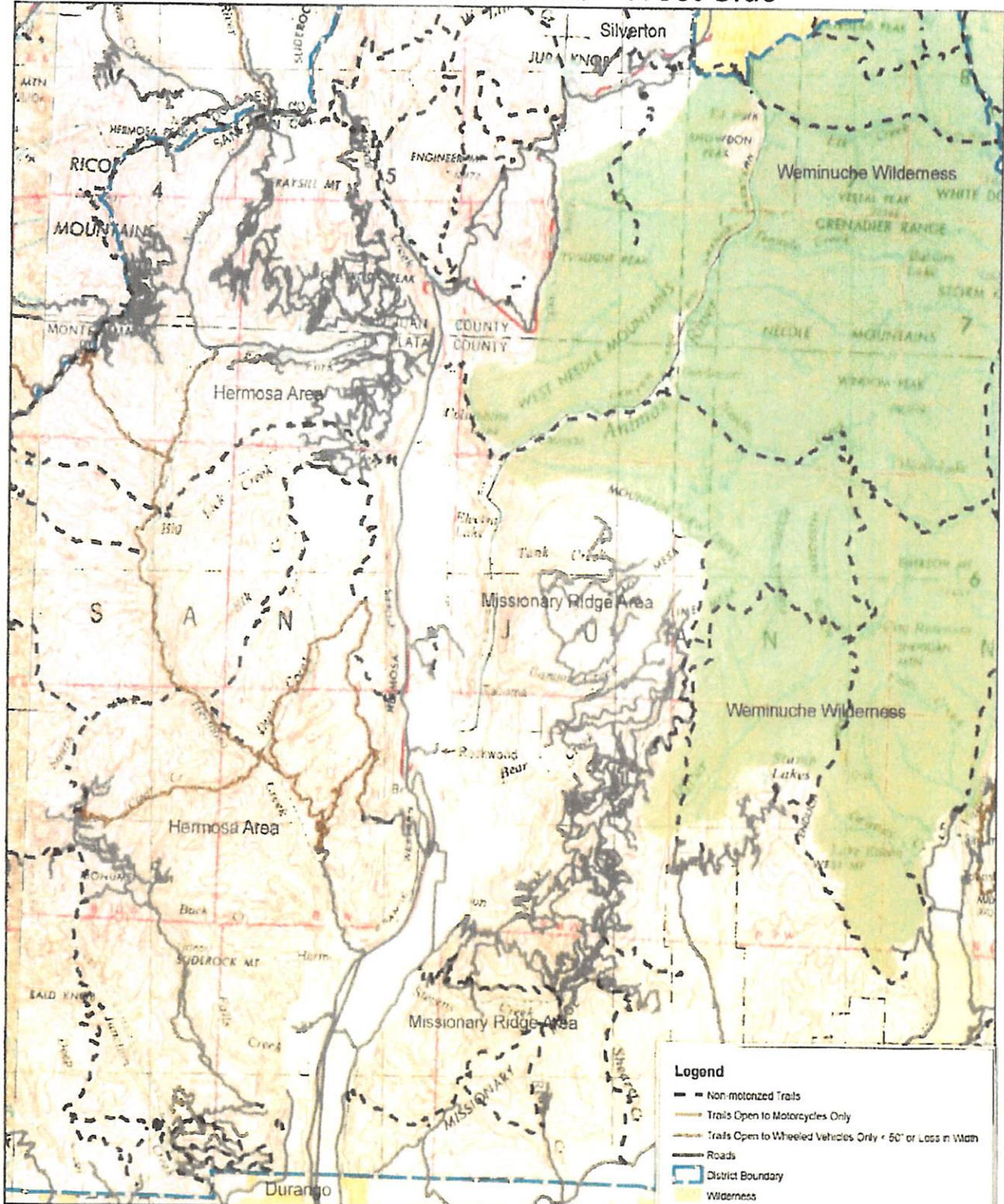
E-2 Project Map: Please provide a map identifying the specific trail-work area or project site.
(Make 12 copies to include in your application packet)

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.

Columbine RD OHV Trails - East Side



Columbine RD OHV Trails - West Side



- Legend**
- Non-motorized Trails
 - Trails Open to Motorcycles Only
 - Trails Open to Wheeled Vehicles Only < 50" or Less in Width
 - Roads
 - District Boundary
 - Wilderness
 - Bureau of Land Management
 - Bureau of Reclamation
 - Colorado Division of Wildlife
 - National Forest
 - Indian Reservation
 - Patented Lands
 - State Lands

(F) Project Illustration

Photographs of Hermosa Creek Trail washout.

Hermosa Creek Trail looking down trail from inside washout



Hermosa Creek Trail Looking North



Hermosa Creek Trail looking South



Hermosa Creek Trail just past wash out



Hermosa Creek Trail view from above cut bank



OHV Heavy Maintenance and Reconstruction Trail Requirements:
Highlighted outstanding project work is identified by landscape, with more trail work noted than can be accomplished in a field season.

Beaver Meadows Landscape:

Arborgas Trail #695:

Impacted by the Chucky Bear Timber Sale, portions of the Arborgas Trail is in need of tread and drainage improvements, and increased signage to ensure trail users stay the trail.

Arborgas Loop Trail #696:

Also impacted by the Chucky Bear Timber Sale, portions of the Arborgas Loop Trail is in need of tread and drainage improvements and increased signage and monitoring to ensure trail users stay the trail.

Baldy Loop Trail #697:

Completion of needed tread and drainage repairs, and the construction of additional drainage features.

Rocky Canyon Trail #717:

Construction of new drainage features in middle portion of the trail where the logging operation damaged the trail.

HDs Landscape:

Ute Creek Trail #666:

We have identified the need to reconstruct the trailhead on the Ute Creek Trail. This will include the construction of drainage features, updating and replacing trailhead signage (as needed), and the possible installation of a width restrictor on this two-track OHV trail.

Reservoir Canyon Trail #681:

Reconstruction of existing and construction of additional drainage features to alleviate ponding in various areas along the trail.

Little Bull Trail #683:

Work will also include the placement of cobble in head cuts to discourage erosion. Trail corridor bushing will also occur where needed.

Hermosa Special Management Area (SMA):

We will continue efforts started in FY 2019 to mitigate the impacts associated with the FY 2018 416 Fire. Operations within the perimeter of the 416 Fire are challenging for crews, as safe locations to place crew camps are difficult to locate or may be far from assigned work sites. This impacts crew production as time spent in transit to and from worksites takes away from their over-all accomplishments.

Hermosa Creek Trail #514:

Continued efforts to improve both the two-track and single-track portions of trail are required. Minor realignment and replacement of the Dutch Creek Bridge are still identified priorities.

Dutch Creek Trail #516:

Improved drainage and general maintenance is required on the single-track motorized trail.

Jones Creek Trail #518:

Improved drainage and general maintenance is required on the single-track motorized trail.

Pinkerton-Flagstaff Trail #522:

A poorly aligned single-track trail, will need significant work to address entrenched trail, boggy areas and portions of general tread and drainage improvements.

La Plata Canyon:

La Plata Canyon contains 17.50 miles of multiple-use two track 50" plus jeep trails which are in need of continued maintenance and tread and drainage improvements. When compared to the rest of the District, this area receives less use and has been a lower priority for the OHV Program.

Middle Mountain Landscape:

Runlett Park Trail #530:

Completion of needed tread and drainage repairs, and the construction of additional drainage features.

The possible installation of a width restrictor on this two-track trail, may be required at the trail junction with the Dark Canyon Trail #814.

Dark Canyon Trail #814:

This single-track motorized trail has been heavily impacted by range operations will require significant rebenching and portions of reconstruction to mitigate the impacts from cattle operations.

Sauls Creek Area:

Horizon Loop #701:

Tread and drainage improvements, construction of additional drainage features and minor realignments needed.

Lange Canyon Trail #712:

As well as addressing signage issues and bootleg spur trails, we have identified the need to place large rocks on the south trailhead to block bootleg trails.

Ridge Trail #807:

Reconstruct and or realign an eroded portion of trail at the top of ridge that is challenging for ATV use.

Visitor Contacts, Education and Regulation Enforcement

A secondary goal associated with this grant funded program is to further increase compliance with travel management regulation enforcement via visitor contacts and education, as well as law enforcement as actions, as needed.

Lastly, we encourage all OHV Program Board Members, CPW staff and OHV Rangers to visit when in southwestern Colorado! We would love to share with you (and show off) our work! We appreciate your input and support, and value time spent discussing future opportunities to better the recreational experiences of trail users!

If more information is desired, please feel free to contact the Columbine Ranger District Trails Program staff.

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