



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

Name of Project: Parks Motorized Trail Crew 2024		Date of Application: 12/2/2022
<i>(Please limit the project name to 5 words or less)</i>		
Total Project Cost: \$128,095	Grant Request: \$90,000	
<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: Parks Ranger District, Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest		
Mailing Address: PO Box 158, Walden, CO 80480		
		Fax: 970-723-4610
Telephone: 970-723-2700	Email: Jonathan.myers@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: Jon Myers		Title: Recreation Specialist
Mailing Address: PO Box 158, Walden, CO 80480		
Telephone:	Fax:	Email: Jonathan.myers@usda.gov
970-723-2700	970-723-4610	Is this the primary contact for this grant: YES X 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: Jon Myers		Title: Recreation Specialist
Mailing Address: PO Box 158, Walden, CO 80480		
Telephone: 970-723-2700	Fax: 970-723-4610	Email: Jonathan.myers@usda.gov

GRANTS & AGREEMENTS SPECIALIST (USFS only) or BUDGET CONTACT (BLM only)		
Name: Mari Lliteras		Title: Grant Management Specialist
Mailing Address: 1617 Cole Blvd. Lakewood, CO 80401		
Telephone: 303-275-5288	Fax:	Email: mari.lliteras@usda.gov

PROJECT LOCATION		
Nearest Town or City: Walden, CO		
County(ies): Jackson		
Township/Range/Section: Throughout Jackson County		
State Senate District #: 8		
State Representative District #: 13		
LAND OWNERSHIP		
1. Provide the name/s of the property owners:		
2. The trail corridor is controlled by: <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Simple <input type="checkbox"/> Lease <input type="checkbox"/> Easement <input type="checkbox"/> License <input type="checkbox"/> Right-of-Way <input type="checkbox"/> Land Acquisition Ownership to be obtained <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (explain): Public lands, part of the National Forest System lands		
TRAIL SYSTEM INFORMATION (List the number of miles for each type of OHV trail in your area)		
Miles of Singletrack: <u> 110 </u>	Miles of 50" or less: <u> 43 </u>	Miles of Full-sized: <u> 364 </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 <i>environmental</i> approvals) miles / ft. added _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Signs	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth Corps	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restoration/Rehabilitation (existing corridor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visitor Contacts & Law Enforcement	<input 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.)	
58		
5	Enforcement, Education & Visitor Contacts (e.g., patrols, enforcement, education and visitor contacts, wages, safety contacts, equipment, etc.)	
10	Planning & Travel Plan Implementation (e.g., planning, engineering, maps, inventorying, travel management signs & installation, decommission non-system routes, rehabilitation, new construction, wages, monitoring, etc.)	
27	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: **Parks Motorized Trail Crew 2024**

Project No.:

(to be completed by CPW)

Project Sponsor: **USFS, Parks Ranger District**Application Year: **2023-2024**Project Contact: **Jon Myers**

Application No.:

(to be completed by CPW)

Total Project Cost: **\$128,095**Grant Request: **\$90,000**

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.)

With this successful grant application, we will be working on our 17th year of projects in the Good OHV Management Program. We will utilize funds from this grant to continue our partnership with the Northern Colorado Trail Riders maintaining motorized trails on the Parks Ranger District, of the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest. We will hire a US Forest Service trail crew to be based out of Walden, Colorado to perform the work included in this application. We are also requesting funds to hire 1 week of the Rocky Mountain Youth Corp to team up with our District Trail Crew to work on larger projects, and funding to purchase a new motorcycle to replace an existing machine.

Work is to be performed on National Forest Land throughout Jackson County. Targeted areas include trails located in the Willow Creek and Snyder Creek areas on the South side of the district. Trails included in this area are Snyder Creek Loop 1226.1, 1226.1A, 1226.1B, 1226.1C, 1226.1D, 1226.1E, Radial Mountain 1227, Illinois Ditch 1228, Illinois Pass M25, and Jack Park 1186. Several of these trails cross the Continental Divide and provide a connection with OHV trails located on the Sulphur Ranger District of the Arapaho/Roosevelt National Forest. Trails listed above can also be linked with trail opportunities on the Colorado State Forest State Park. Specific trail work will include continued replacement and armoring of water bars, corridor clearing, fixing trail erosion, and rutting issues, as well as continued travel management signing and implementation. Work will continue to be targeted on the upper sections of trail 1226.1 that are harder to access and starting to get rutted out due to erosion. There will also be some areas where we target corridor clearing because of all the blowdown it has become a wall of downed logs that needs to be cleared back.

On the Western edge of the Parks District, we will continue work on the Grizzly Helena Trail 1126, Percy Lake Trail 1134, the Aqua Fria Trail 1229, and the Wyoming Trail 1101. Specific tasks on these trails will include replacement and armoring of existing water bars as well as installing new ones, clearing deadfall and hazard trees, addressing erosion and trail drainage, as well as travel management implementation. There are plans to continue working on armoring (with blocks) and re-establishing the stream channels at some of the bigger creek crossings on the Grizzly Helena trail. Trail corridor clearing will also be an important focus to continue working for all the trails, and the north end of the Grizzly Helena Trail #1126 needs some heavy tread repair and maintenance as well as the section from Lone Pine South to the Red Canyon trailheads.

Trail clearing will be accomplished at least once a season on all our system motorized trails. Routine maintenance will be performed on approximately 50 miles of prioritized trails during the season. An important component of this project will be continuing our visitor education efforts with State Consistent Signing, maintaining trailhead information, contacting visitors, and enforcing existing State and Federal regulations regarding the use of OHVs. We will continue to acknowledge the State of CO, OHV program for funding received in our brochures and signs. All the above work will be performed during the 2024 field season from mid-May through mid- November.

Budget Form

Project Name: Parks District Motorized Trails 2024

Date Project will be Completed: 11/30/2024

Project Sponsor: Parks Ranger District of the Medicine Bow-Routt 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)			\$90,000
Other Funding Sources	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
USFS in kind salary and vehicle expenses	\$ -	\$ 10,255	\$ 10,255.00
Northern Colorado Trail Riders volunteer labor @ \$30/hr X 928 hours (in 2022)	\$ -	\$ 27,840	\$ 27,840.00
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
USE OF GRANT FUNDING	TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT		\$ 128,095.00

List uses of grant funding (only) below

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
GS-7 Trail program leader 30 days	\$ 30.00			\$ 7,200.00
GS-5 Trail Crew leader 20 weeks @40 hours/week	\$22			\$ 17,600.00
GS-4 Trail Crew member 18 weeks @40hours/week (2 employees)	\$ 18.00			\$ 25,920.00
Rocky Mountain Youth Corp intern 15 weeks @ 40 hours/week	\$ 22.00			\$ 13,200.00
Uniform/outfitting/PPE/travel per diem				\$ 1,580.00
<small>For CPW use only: Approximate number of workhours</small>	2,183.33		Category Total	\$ 65,500.00
II. Project Materials/Supplies				
<small>Identify as: Signs, rock, lumber, paint, nails, printing, maps/guides, education materials, etc.</small>				
	Price Per	Quantity	Total	
Hand tools, saw parts/maintenance, gravel lumber, tie downs	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 1,200.00
Signs/educational materials	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 546.00
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
			Category Total	\$ 1,746.00
III. Equipment				
<small>Identify as: Trail Dozers, ATV/UTV, motorcycle, chainsaws, winches, field equipment rentals, equipment fuel, repairs, and operations, etc.</small>				
ATV, UTV, motorcycle annual maintenance	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 1,800.00
Stihl MS261 chainsaw 2023 internet pricing	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 660.00
			Category Total	\$ 2,460.00
III.A. FLEET Equipment				
<small>Identify as: Crew Fleet Vehicles/Trucks monthly FOR & USE, Fleet Equipment monthly USE.</small>				
Purchase new motorcycle to replace existing machine	\$ -		\$ -	
2023 Yamaha WR250F (Internet pricing)	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 8,899.00
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
			Category Total	\$ 8,899.00
IV. Contracted Services				
<small>Identify as: Youth Corps, NEPA, planning, engineering, construction contractor/subcontractor costs</small>				
Rocky Mountain Youth Corps	\$ -			\$ 10,895.00
	\$ -			\$ -
	\$ -			\$ -
			Category Total	\$ 10,895.00
V. Volunteer Support				
<small>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.</small>				
non-monetary awards for volunteer support and recognition for trail clearing and maintenance on District wide trails	\$ -			\$ 500.00
	\$ -			\$ -
			Category Total	\$ 500.00
			Total	\$ 90,000.00

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: Parks Motorized Trail Crew 2024 Project Sponsor: USFS, Parks Ranger District

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:

Land and Resource Management Plan, Routt National Forest Date: 1997

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

Date and title of document:

Decision Notice (DN) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), Radial Mountain Travel Management and Environmental Assessment, June 13, 2001

DN & FONSI for Snyder Creek Analysis area July 24, 1996

DN & FONSI for Travel Management Changes, Parks and Yampa Ranger Districts, Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest, October 10, 1997

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:

Jon Myers, Parks Ranger District - 970-723-2700

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

Chris Olds, District Ranger, Parks Ranger District of the Medicine Bow-Routt NF

Print or type Land Manager's Name and Title

Handwritten signature of Chris Olds, District Ranger

11/28/2022 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?** This project will continue an ongoing effort to develop and maintain a sustainable, enjoyable, and safe trail system on the Parks Ranger District of the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest. It will continue to address the backlog of trail maintenance that exists, as well as address emerging issues that affect trail sustainability and travel management patterns. During the upcoming year we will focus on trail and corridor clearing in areas affected by continued blowdown. We will also continue to address drainage issues by installing new armored waterbars, rehabilitating older waterbars, re-establishing the channel on some small creeks or drains and armoring the banks as appropriate to prevent further erosion. We will continue to sign trails and roads to be consistent with our Motor Vehicle Use Maps and make visitor contacts in the field throughout the summer providing education and OHV registration compliance.
- **How will the project protect or improve riding opportunities?** This project will keep trails in sustainable locations and conditions. With the ongoing work of this program, we have made considerable strides in protecting trails and improving riding opportunities by armoring creek crossings to prevent erosion, keeping waterbars maintained, re-routing trails out of sensitive areas, and turnpike construction. Continued travel management signing, and visitor contacts have helped to keep riding enthusiasts informed and making the right choices. Work will continue in areas where trail braiding has become a problem by re-establishing trail tread to prevent off trail riding.
- **Will it provide essential maintenance to keep OHV riding opportunities available? Please describe maintenance history for this specific area.** Being a part of the Good OHV Management Program for the last 15 years has greatly helped to provide essential maintenance to keep over 130 miles of OHV trails open on the district, some of these trails also tie in with adjacent riding areas. Without the funding of this program, we would struggle to even get the trails cleared of deadfall each year and the deferred maintenance would fall further and further behind. Through a partnership with the Northern Colorado Trail Riders, we have been doing work on many of these trails since the year 2000 keeping them cleared, open, and maintained.
- **Describe how this project will foster and promote a satisfactory and challenging riding opportunity for OHV enthusiasts?** This project will help keep trails open and maintained at sustainable levels which will lead to a satisfying experience for our recreating public. Our OHV trail system has a variety of terrain that challenges riders from those just beginning to those who have been riding for decades. This project will help to keep all these trails open to provide this important recreational benefit.
- **Why is this project a priority at this time?** This project is an ongoing priority to continue building on and maintaining the work that has previously been accomplished. The Parks District continues to see increased use in OHV traffic, and through opportunities like the Good OHV Management Grant we can stay on top of trail maintenance and travel management implementation. We are still dealing with the effects of the bark beetle epidemic which has led to considerable downfall on the trails each year as well as other water related impacts due to the large number of dead trees.

- **Provide an estimate of how many and what types of OHV enthusiasts will benefit from the project?** Due to the proximity of our trail system to the Front Range of Colorado, we get a lot of recreationists coming up to ride from the Denver Metro Area north to Laramie and Cheyenne, Wyoming. The use of our trail system can vary greatly throughout the summer with our highest use on weekends and holidays. Some trails see increased use during the fall hunting seasons. The Willow Creek/Snyder Creek Trail system can have 100-200 motorcycle riders per day on the trails over a busy weekend. There are some ATV trail opportunities as well as open forest roads that attract additional riders to the southern part of the district. Some of these trails provide opportunities to link in with trails on the Sulphur Ranger District of the Arapaho Roosevelt National Forest, and the Colorado State Forest State Park. There are a number of trailheads and two campgrounds that provide access to the Grizzly Helena trail on the west side of the district which, depending on the section, allow for motorcycles or ATVs. The west side sees an increase in traffic during the hunting season, and in particular those sections that allow for ATV use. There are also a number of roads on the district that provide 4X4 access for OHVs as well as full sized vehicles. Overall, thousands of users enjoy the trails and road systems that are open on the district and adjoining areas.
- **Describe how this project will provide long term value and sustainability?** By addressing critical maintenance needs these trails are kept up to standard and open to use. Through dedicated planning efforts we will ensure that they are sustainable and less of a maintenance concern in the future. This ongoing project continues to draw recreationists from the Front Range and surrounding areas because of our undeveloped and uncrowded landscape. These trail systems offer a diverse range of opportunities for riders of all abilities and ages. The traffic that these trails bring to the Parks Ranger District and North Park area help provide an economic benefit to the local economy helping to bring long term value and sustainability.

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?** The project's main partner is the Parks Ranger District of the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest, as this is where the project will be taking place. Other partners include the Northern Colorado Trail Riders who annually come up to help clear the trails of deadfall and other trail maintenance projects, Colorado State Forest State Park, and the Sulphur Ranger District who both have trails that connect with this project, and the Rocky Mountain Youth Corp who help provide crews to do trail maintenance work.
- **Are you aware of any controversy this proposed project has caused, if at all, in the local community?** No

Leverage

In kind contributions

Northern Colorado Trail Riders

Annual trail clearing and maintenance projects (Approx. 928 hours in 2022 X \$30 /hr)

NCTR Total \$27,840

USDA Forest Service

Administration/planning/cooperative relations
Recreation Staff Officer (10 days x \$380/day) = \$3,800

Equipment costs

Vehicle costs(1 vehicle X 6 months X \$350) + (4500 miles X \$.71/mile) = \$5,295

Trailers (mileage/maintenance 1000 miles @ \$.32/mile) = \$320

ATVs and motorcycles (1000 miles @ \$.24/mile) = \$240

Chainsaws (gas,oil,parts,chains) = \$100

Motor Vehicle Use Maps (printing) = \$500

USFS total \$10,255

Good Management OHV Grant \$90,000

Total Project Cost \$128,095

Volunteers: The Northern Colorado Trail Riders are one of our volunteer groups that have invested a tremendous amount of time and effort into the multiple use trails on the Parks Ranger District. Along with their volunteer labor efforts they are also a valued partner because of the contacts they have with other motorcycle and ATV riders and OHV clubs where they spread the word about trail etiquette and travel management strategies.

- **OHV grant program acknowledgement:** The Parks District continues to acknowledge the State OHV grant program in our printed trail brochures, at trailhead bulletin boards, and through the use of "Colorado Registration Dollars at Work" stickers throughout our trail system. We also had crew t-shirts this season identifying the crew as a US Forest Service OHV crew and Colorado registration dollars at work.

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***)

- The principal objective of this project will be trail maintenance. This will include maintaining what we already have in place as well as additional maintenance needed to help prevent erosion and stabilize trails. This project will continue to look at ways to get trails out of sensitive riparian areas or harden these areas where they can't be avoided. Ongoing efforts will be continued for closing off unauthorized routes with signage, barricades, and rehabilitating them as necessary. Rehabilitation may include contour falling of dead trees to block and help stabilize the trail, seeding or re-vegetating, surface re-contouring, and/or establishing drainage to stabilize and discourage further use. Trail maintenance efforts will continue to focus on maintaining and building waterbars to control water and prevent erosion along with check dam installation where appropriate to re-stabilize the trails. We will continue to work on areas where the trail has become braided; work will include drainage control and tread repair or reconstruction.

Another important part of our on-going trail maintenance is monitoring past projects to see if they are still functioning properly; this project will continue that monitoring. There are some projects in wet areas that need further armoring or re-design to maintain a sustainable trail while protecting water resources. With both the trail maintenance and monitoring that this project proposes, we will be promoting the long-term protection of sensitive resources on the Forest and continue to work towards a sustainable trail network.

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:

- With this grant application we are asking for funding to purchase a new motorcycle to replace a previously purchased motorcycle from 2005. The older motorcycle is showing its age and we are looking to replace it before maintenance costs become too high. We are looking to replace in kind, meaning a similar sized motorcycle with a rack system that would allow us to carry chainsaws on the bike. Future maintenance of the motorcycle would be funded through continuing Good OHV Management grants, and annual expenditures for maintenance would be approximately \$400 per year.
- The Parks Ranger District would be responsible for operation and maintenance of the equipment using funding from our Good OHV Management grants or allocated USFS funding.
- Combined with our other motorcycles that we use on the district; it is estimated from 50 to 100 hours of time per year for clearing trails of deadfall using the motorcycles and making visitor contacts.
- We would continue to use the equipment for OHV related trail work as long as possible. Should the Parks District become unable to use it further we would contact CPW to find another organization that was in need of this equipment.

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:

This project will address travel management on the Parks Ranger District of the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest. We will continue to implement and ground truth our latest version of the Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUM). We will ensure that appropriate signing corresponds to the MVUM, and work to monitor and address off-trail and non-system routes by signing, fencing, and rehabilitating where appropriate. We will continue to contact visitors in the field to educate about appropriate uses in the area, give out MVUMs, trail brochures, check for OHV sticker compliance, and provide information to reduce conflicts between user groups. This promotes cooperation on our multiple use trails.

An ongoing part of our Good Management Grant status is the implementation of signing and maintaining our open OHV trails and roads, as well as monitoring for un-authorized use of non-system routes. When non-system routes are discovered, we try to first sign those areas, followed up with barricades or fencing, and rehabilitation of the route by closing with downed trees and adding drainage structures if necessary. Usually as a last resort we will go in to decommission or re-contour as necessary. Along with these efforts we try to talk with visitors in the area to gain compliance. This project is consistent with our Forest Plan, previous travel management decisions, and our MVUM implementation to designate open motor vehicle routes and maintain our multiple use trails in a sustainable manner.

Education

This project will continue building on previous educational efforts implemented on the district. The Parks District Motorized Good Management OHV Trail Crew regularly makes visitor contacts while out in the field working. Many of the contacts occur during routine maintenance. This gives us the opportunity to check for compliance with the OHV registration laws, interact with trail users; show them the work that we do, and validate the importance of Staying The Trail. We regularly get compliments on the work we do and our efforts to help keep trails open and maintained. We feel it is important for trail users to see where and how their registration dollars are being spent. Another part of our educational efforts are directed towards signing and providing information at our trailheads. We constantly strive to keep signs updated and in good repair, maps and brochures stocked at all trailheads, provide current information to our visitors which can lead to greater understanding and less conflict between all visitors. Another important message that we have been sharing for several years is hazard tree awareness, reminding folks that there are thousands of dead trees in the forest that are now falling and to be alert for windy conditions and falling trees while you are camping or recreating. During busy holiday weekends we make the extra effort to be visible to our recreating public while working and on patrol to provide these public contacts and education materials.

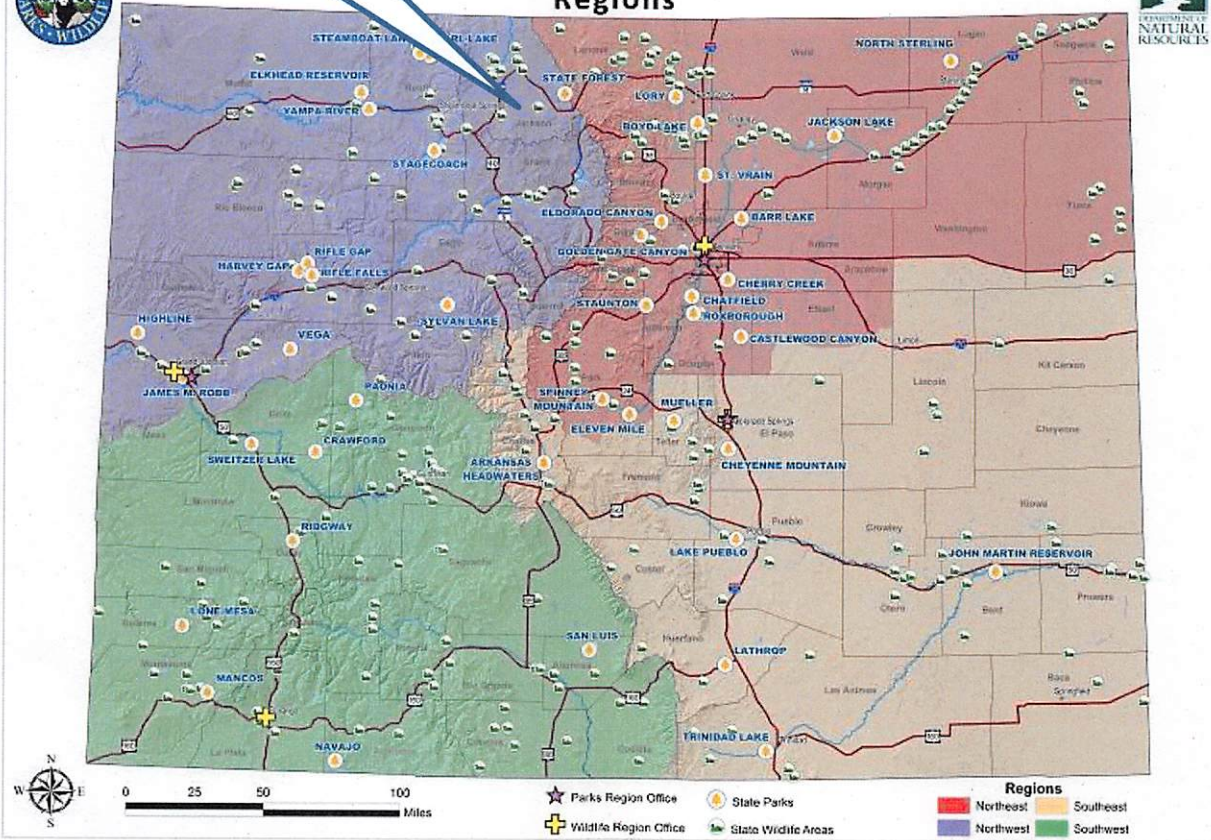
Enforcement and Compliance Activities:

As part of our ongoing efforts, we continue to check OHV registrations. Many times, this is a simple check of stickers on the trail. On busier weekends we try to talk with people while they are in camp to check stickers, hand out maps, and relay other information as pertinent. Each year we try to hire or maintain at least one seasonal employee who is certified as a Forest Protection Officer, Level 2 Law Enforcement, who can issue warnings and write citations as necessary. On busier weekends we routinely have presence from one of our dedicated Forest Service Law Enforcement Officers making public contacts. Visitor contacts are documented on our daily trail logs and any enforcement activities can be tracked through our Law Enforcement database. During these contacts we stress the importance of keeping OHVs on designated routes as well as explaining the importance of registering their machines whether in state or out of state and where those monies go. Time and resources dedicated to our law enforcement efforts vary year to year and by season, but a fair estimate would be about 15% of the total project cost, counting trail maintenance time where we also make contacts. With accurate signing on the ground and the availability of MVUMs, there continues to be better compliance by all visitors.

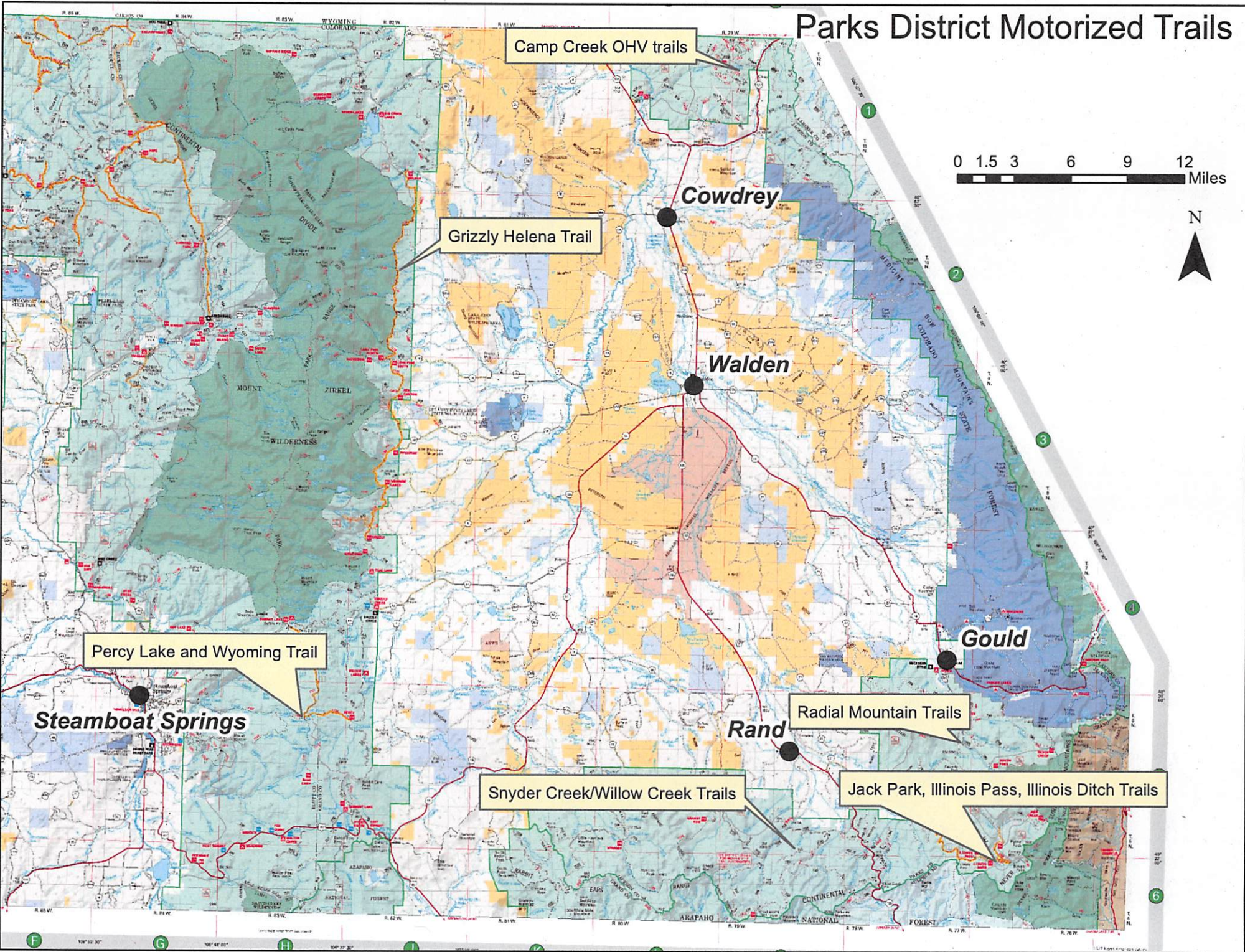
**Parks District Motorized
Trails Project Vicinity**



**Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Regions**



Parks District Motorized Trails



Camp Creek OHV trails

Grizzly Helena Trail

Percy Lake and Wyoming Trail

Steamboat Springs

Cowdrey

Walden

Rand

Radial Mountain Trails

Gould

Snyder Creek/Willow Creek Trails

Jack Park, Illinois Pass, Illinois Ditch Trails

0 1.5 3 6 9 12 Miles



**STATE TRAILS – GOOD OHV MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
PARKS DISTRICT MOTORIZED TRAIL CREW
PROJECT WORK PLAN – FY 2023**

History:

The Parks District motorized trail crew has been maintaining and constructing motorized trails in the Routt National Forest using Colorado State Trails OHV Grants since 2000. The Northern Colorado Trail Riders were initially the grant applicants that helped to provide the US Forest Service with the funding needed to complete on the ground trail projects. The Parks Ranger District has been the lead applicant for the last 19 years of successful OHV grant applications and was accepted into the “Good OHV Management Program” in the spring of 2007. These funds have been used to open and maintain approximately 150 miles of motorized trails on the district. Many of the district’s trails also connect with OHV riding opportunities on adjacent State and National Forest lands, as well as hundreds of miles of open roads on the Routt National Forest. The funding from these grants has allowed the district to operate and continue to work towards a sustainable, safe, and enjoyable motorized trail system.

Project Description:

We will hire a US Forest Service trail crew (this may include interns from the RMYC) to be based out of Walden, Colorado to perform the work included in this work plan. We also have funding to hire 1 week of Rocky Mountain Youth Corps to team up with our trail crew to work on corridor clearing on trail sections with large amounts of deadfall, trail reconstruction, and heavy trail tread reconstruction on the Grizzly Helena and Snyder Creek trails. Work to be performed is throughout Jackson County.

The Parks Ranger District has trails located in the Willow Creek and Snyder Creek areas on the South end of the district. Trails included in this area are: Snyder Creek Loop 1226.1, 1226.1A, 1226.1B, 1226.1C, 1226.1D, 1226.1E, Radial Mountain 1227, Illinois Ditch 1228, Illinois Pass M25, and Jack Park 1186. Several of these trails cross the Continental Divide and provide a connection with OHV trails located on the Sulphur Ranger District of the Arapaho/Roosevelt National Forest. Trails listed above can also be linked with trail opportunities on the Colorado State Forest State Park. Some specific trail work included on the above trails will include continued replacement and armoring of waterbars, heavy corridor clearing in some of the more congested areas, fixing trail erosion and rutting issues, as well as continued travel management signing and implementation.

On the Western edge of the Parks District we will be continuing work on the Grizzly Helena Trail 1126, Percy Lake Trail 1134, and the Aqua Fria Trail 1229. Specific tasks on these trails will also include continued replacement and armoring of waterbars as well as new installation of waterbars, corridor clearing of deadfall and hazard tree removal, addressing erosion and trail drainage, as well as travel management implementation. Specific projects will include improved drainage work or small re-routes out of low spots, adding check dams and refilling areas of trail that have become severely rutted and braided. Work will continue or hardening creek crossing with blocks or other methods as appropriate, and trying to fill in and re-establish tread in some areas.

On the North end of the District we will have some outside funded crews along with our Good OHV Management Crew, working on trails 1212, and 1217, located in the Pinkham Mountain area that were affected by the Mullen Fire in 2020. Work will

include clearing trails of deadfall, removing identified hazard trees created by the fire activity, and replacing signs as necessary.

The above listed trails are located on National Forest System lands and total over 150 miles of trails open to Off Highway Vehicles and also provide access to hundreds of miles of forest roads that are open to OHV's.

Some of the work listed above may lend itself to the use of a SWECO trail dozer or the little trail dozer that the Routt Crew now has, to reestablish tread and address drainage concerns. There may also be the opportunity to use the district's skidsteer and operator on trail projects where appropriate. Trail clearing will be accomplished at least once a season on all of our system motorized trails. Routine maintenance will be performed on approximately 50 miles of prioritized trails during the season.

An important component of this project will be continuing our visitor education efforts with State Consistent Signing, maintaining trailhead information and educational signing, contacting visitors, and enforcing existing State and Federal regulations regarding the use of OHVs. We will continue updating and distributing information on the Motor Vehicle Use Maps, as well as travel management planning, signing, and implementation. We will continue with hazard tree removal along trails that have not been treated. Maintenance and signing will be completed in accordance with US Forest Service standards. We will continue to acknowledge that the work from this grant is funded through Colorado OHV registration dollars, by signs on the trails or at trailheads, visitor contacts, and locally produced brochures.

All of the above work would be performed during the 2023 field season from mid-May through mid-November.

Budget:

The following table lists anticipated costs associated with hiring, training, and supplying our motorized trail crew. The crew usually consists of one GS-5 crew leader, one or two GS-4's, and one to two GS-3's depending on availability of applicants. The crew leader and at least one of the GS-4 crew members are planned for 25 weeks, while the other GS-3 and GS-4 members are planned for approximately 12-20 weeks.

Use of Funding		Grant Amount
Personnel/PPE/Travel		\$67,800
Materials and Supplies		\$3,000
Equipment use/maintenance		\$1,900
Rocky Mountain Youth Corp		\$11,500
Volunteer support recognition		\$800
	TOTAL	<u>\$85,000</u>

Team Yamaha Blue

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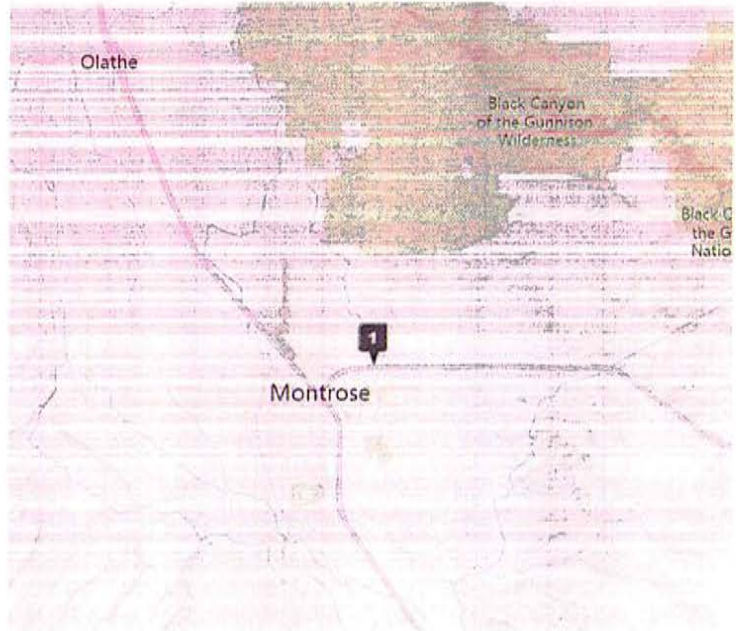
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