



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

<b>Name of Project:</b> OHV Grand Lake Trail Crew		<b>Date of Application:</b> 11/28/2022
<i>(Please limit the project name to 5 words or less)</i>		
<b>Total Project Cost:</b> \$ 105,000	<b>Grant Request:</b> \$ 105,000	
<i>Amount Requested (round off to the nearest \$1) must match the Project Budget Form:</i>		
<b>PROJECT SPONSOR</b> (Name and Address for entity legally responsible for project)		
Organization Name: USDA Forest Service, Arapaho National Forest, Sulphur Ranger District		
Mailing Address: 9 Ten Mile Drive/PO Box 10 Granby, CO 80446		
		Fax: (970) 887-4102
Telephone: (970) 887-4126	Email: miles.miller@usda.gov	

**OFFICIAL USE ONLY – DUNS # (IF REQUIRED):**

<b>PROJECT CONTACT</b> This is the person with day-to-day responsibility for the managing the project, ensuring the contract scope of work will be fulfilled. Please notify us if <i>Project Contact</i> changes.		
Name: Miles Miller/USDA Forest Service		Title: Supervisory Forestry Tech
Mailing Address: 9 Ten Mile Drive/PO Box 10 Granby, CO 80446		
Telephone: (970) 887-4126	Fax: (970) 887-4102	Telephone: (970) 887-4126
		Is this the primary contact for this grant: YES X NO

<b>PROJECT CLOSE-OUT CONTACT</b> This is the person responsible for submitting receipts for project spending and close-out. Please notify us if <i>Project Contact</i> changes.		
Name: Miles Miller/USDA Forest Service		Title: Supervisory Forestry Tech
Mailing Address: 9 Ten Mile Drive/PO Box 10 Granby, CO 80446		
Telephone: (970) 887-4126	Fax: (970) 887-4102	Telephone: (970) 887-4126

<b>GRANTS &amp; AGREEMENTS SPECIALIST (USFS only) or BUDGET CONTACT (BLM only)</b>		
Name: Sara Wolf		Title: Grants Management Specialist
Mailing Address: 1617 Cole Blvd. Lakewood, CO 80401		
Telephone: 719-553-1432	Fax:	Email: <a href="mailto:sara.wolf@usda.gov">sara.wolf@usda.gov</a>

SSMP

M-WV

<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	
Nearest Town or City: Granby	
County(ies): Grand	
Township/Range/Section: T 3N, R 76W, Sec 15	
State Senate District #:8	
State Representative District #:56	
<b>LAND OWNERSHIP</b>	
1. Provide the name/s of the property owners:	
2. The trail corridor is controlled by: <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Simple <input type="checkbox"/> Lease <input type="checkbox"/> Easement <input type="checkbox"/> License <input type="checkbox"/> Right-of-Way <input type="checkbox"/> Land Acquisition Ownership to be obtained <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (explain): <b>The land in question is controlled and managed as part of the National Forest System by the United States Forest Service. Proof of Ownership is contained in the Creative Act establishing the National Forest system, and in the proclamation establishing the Arapaho National Forest.</b>	
<b>TRAIL SYSTEM INFORMATION</b> (List the number of miles for each type of OHV trail in your area)	
Miles of Singletrack: <u>27</u>	Miles of 50" or less: <u>34.3</u> Miles of Full-sized: <u>154</u>
<b>TRAIL USER INFORMATION</b> (Please check all that apply to the work planned for this project)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All-Terrain Vehicle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Side x Side
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motorcycling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full Sized 4X4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Four-Wheeling	<input type="checkbox"/> Accessible Access
<b>PROJECT INFORMATION</b> (Please check all activities that apply to this project.) Include detailed information for each in the Project Scope of Work.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trail Maintenance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Travel Plan Implementation
<input type="checkbox"/> *New Trail Construction miles / ft. _____ (Approved through Travel Mgt Decision)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource Protection & Improvement
<input checked="" 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"/> *Major Re-Route (that will require new or additional <i>environmental</i> approvals)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restoration/Rehabilitation (existing corridor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Corps
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visitor Contacts & Law Enforcement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planning
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capital Equipment
	<input type="checkbox"/> Land Acquisition or Other
* New Trail Construction & Major Re-Route: Trail location(s) must be indicated on project map and detailed description of trail work plans must be provided in Project Selection Criteria, Section D-1, #3 Resource Protection, Enhancement & Restoration	
<b>TRAIL ACTIVITIES SUMMARY</b> (Based on your project description and budget, provide the percentage for each of the categories listed below.)	
<b>% of Budget</b>	<b>Program maintenance</b> (e.g., erosion controls, water bars and culverts, trail clearing and brushing, trail hardening and trail tread repairs, bridge construction and repairs, trailhead improvements and maintenance, crew wages, etc.)
40	
25	<b>Enforcement, Education &amp; Visitor Contacts</b> (e.g., patrols, enforcement, education and visitor contacts, wages, safety contacts, equipment, etc.)
17	<b>Planning &amp; Travel Plan Implementation</b> (e.g., planning, engineering, maps, inventorying, travel management signs & installation, decommission non-system routes, rehabilitation, new construction, wages, monitoring, etc.)

18	<b>Equipment /Materials/ Signs/ Youth Corps/Miscellaneous</b> (e.g., equipment maintenance and repair, personnel training, certification in the use of specialized equipment, program coordination, etc.)
100	<b>Total: (Note: Percentages should add to 100 %)</b>

<b>SCOPE OF WORK – Project Description:</b>	
Project Name: Grand Lake Trail Crew	Project No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Project Sponsor: USDA, Arapaho National Forest, Sulphur Ranger District	Application Year: 2023-2024
Project Contact: Miles Miller	Application No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Total Project Cost: \$105,000	Grant Request: \$105,000

**Project Description:** To develop, maintain and improve OHV trails, trailheads, parking and support facilities; reconstruct OHV trails and related facilities; produce, install and maintain signage for OHV trails and support facilities; develop, deliver and provide education and rider ethics training to the OHV riding community; maintain, supply and operate facilities owned by the USDA Forest Service and BLM that are used by OHV recreationalists; implement approved federal Travel Management Plans; and provide a field presence for visitor contacts, compliance and enforcement. To support and promote the Colorado state Parks OHV registration program through public contacts and education and participate at the Colorado OHV workshops when scheduling accommodates.

***APPLICATION SCOPE OF WORK:***

The Grand Lake Trail Crew is a 4-person trail crew stationed on the Sulphur Ranger District (SRD) of the Arapaho National Forest located in Grand County Colorado. The SRD is on the west side of the Continental Divide approximately 2 hours west of the Denver metropolitan area. The district spans from the summit of Berthoud Pass on the southeast boundary, follows the summit of the Continental Divide north to the boundary with Rocky Mountain National Park which comprises the northeast boundary, then extends west to the summit of Parkview Mountain which marks the northwest boundary, and then extends south to the summit of Ute Pass which comprises the southwest boundary. The district has approximately 80 miles of multiple use motorized trail, and over 350 miles of multiple use roads, available for motorized enthusiasts. The crew’s primary area of emphasis is the Grand Lake Trail System which is located on the north end of the district just west of US Highway #34 near the town of Grand Lake approximately 90 miles west of Denver. The trail system lies within a large area commonly known as “Stillwater Pass”, which extends from US Highway #34 west to Colorado Highway #125, and North of US Highway #40 to the summit of Willow Creek Divide and east to the Rocky Mountain National Park boundary. The area encompasses approximately 150,000 acres of mountainous terrain consisting of mixed lodgepole pine and spruce and fir forests. The area ranges in elevation from 8,500 feet at the Idleglen staging area to over 12,000 feet on the summit of Parkview Mountain. The Grand Lake Trail System contains approximately 190 miles of OHV open routes winding through beautiful mountain forests offering spectacular scenic alpine vistas. The system consists of 46 miles of multiple-use motorized trails including 11.4 miles of motorized single-track (currently re-constructing 9 more single track miles that was finished 3 weeks before the East Troublesome Fire wiped it out) as well as 154 miles of OHV open roads.

The Grand Lake Trail crew is responsible for; maintenance, construction and reconstruction of trails, trail clearing, construction and maintenance of trailhead facilities, installation of kiosks and bulletin boards for user education, installation of trail and travel management signs to inform, direct, and regulate trail users, construction of buck-n-rail fence for travel management purposes to regulate users and to prevent resource damage, patrolling and cleaning OHV camping areas, extinguishing unattended campfires, distribution of trail maps and education materials, and field presence during peak use times (Weekends, Holidays, Hunting Seasons, Special Events, etc..) to provide information, education, assistance, and compliance for the State OHV registration program, as well as, enforcement of Forest Service rules and regulations.

The large majority of grant funds (over 80%) will be used to fund salary for personnel assigned to the Grand Lake Trail Crew. Funds will also be used to train and certify members of the crew in chainsaw operations, motorcycle and ATV operations, level 2 law enforcement, CPR and 1<sup>st</sup> Aid, and other required skills as necessary. Remaining funds will be

used to purchase, lease, rent, and maintain equipment and/or materials and supplies to support the crew and associated projects. This includes funding vehicles and fuel, utility trailers, motorcycles and ATV's, and other tools, equipment, and personal protective gear.

Funds requested in this grant are to be utilized during the field season of 2024 beginning in early April and continuing into late November 2024. Nominal reserve funds will be held over to cover permanent employee benefits during furlough months until June of 2025. (Timeline = April 2024- June 2025).

The Grand Lake Trail System (GLTS) has become one of the most popular and intensely used motorized trail systems in the State of Colorado. Because the trail system is immediately adjacent to Rocky Mountain National Park, The Arapaho National Recreation Area (surrounding Lake Granby), The Bowen Gulch Protection Area, The Never Summer Wilderness, and the town of Grand Lake, and due to its close proximity to the Front Range metropolitan area (less than a 2-hour drive), this trail system attracts an incredible amount of OHV enthusiasts annually. Based on road counter tallies and use surveys, it is estimated that the area is visited by approximately 20,000 OHV enthusiasts annually. The trail damage and subsequent maintenance requirements of such an intensely used trail system are substantial. Grant Funding for the Grand Lake Trail Crew through the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Good OHV Management Program is critical for maintenance of the (GLTS) and our ability to continue to provide motorized recreation opportunities in this area. The (GLTS) spans a very unique and diverse ecological area with motorized trails circumventing many very unique places. These unique areas are a significant part of what attracts users to this trail system. Congressionally designated areas like the Never Summer Wilderness, Bowen Gulch Protection Area, Arapaho National Recreation Area, and Rocky Mountain National Park have stringent management prescriptions that are clearly defined in their respective legislations. As land managers, it is paramount that we ensure the protection of these special areas and meet the intent of the defining legislation. It is extremely challenging to provide OHV riding opportunities in close proximity to such ecologically sensitive areas. The Grand Lake Trail Crew is what sustains our ability to continue to provide OHV opportunities on the (GLTS) and throughout the adjacent area.

\*Unfortunately, because of the record wildfires Colorado and the Grand Lake/Stillwater area experienced during the 2020 fall season the Grand Lake Trail System was completely decimated by the East Troublesome Fire. Signage, kiosks, OHV routes, sensitive area protective fencing and nearly every trail structure (bridges, turnpikes etc.) were consumed by the East Troublesome Fire. The intention of the Sulphur Ranger District is to continue reconstruction and reestablishment of the Grand Lake Trail System and continue to provide this premier OHV opportunity in its entirety.

\*Trails in the Williams Fork/Keyser Creek OHV trail system, also managed by the GLTC, were severely impacted by the Williams Fork Fire during the 2020 fire season and substantial rehabilitation of the trails and trail infrastructure in that area will be part of the work plans for the GLTC for the foreseeable future.

The GLTC acknowledges CPW by handing out Colorado OHV dollars at work stickers to the public in the field and at our front desk. We also put the stickers on trail carsonites/signage and kiosks across the district, as well as on our fleet of trail tractors, equipment, ATV'S and motorcycles.



# Budget Form

**Project Name: Grand Lake Trail Crew OHV Good Management**

**Date Project will be Completed: 4/30/2025**

**Project Sponsor: Arapaho National Forest Service Sulphur R.D.**

\*\*\*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)			<b>\$105,000</b>
Other Funding Sources <small>List other sources of project funding here and for what the funding will be used. (insert more lines if needed)</small>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Example: To provide additional Salary, Materials, and/or Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>USE OF GRANT FUNDING</b> <small>List uses of grant funding (only) below</small>	<b>TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT</b>		<b>\$ 105,000.00</b>

<b>I. Personnel Costs</b> <small>Identify as: Salary/wage, benefits, travel, training, outfitting costs, personal protection equipment, etc.</small>				
Employee Name or Title/Grade	\$ Per Hr	Hrs/ week	# of weeks	Total Cost
GS-9 Crew Project Mgt Crew Lead Training	\$ 43.75	40	2	\$ 3,500.00
GS-7 GLTC Foreman	\$ 25.00	40	24	\$ 24,000.00
GS-5 Asst Crew Lead	\$ 18.75	40	22	\$ 16,500.00
GS-5 Journeyman crew member	\$ 18.75	40	22	\$ 16,500.00
GS-5 Journeyman crew member	\$ 18.75	40	22	\$ 16,500.00
GS-7 OT Rate \$31.61 @ 18 Hrs	\$ -			\$ 568.98
GS-5 Lumpsum AL \$18.75 @ 80hrs	\$ -			\$ 1,500.00
GS-5 OT Rate \$27.12 @ 16hrs	\$ -			\$ 434.00
Crew Training	\$ -			\$ 600.00
Crew Travel/Per diem	\$ -			\$ 600.00
Crew Uniform	\$ -			\$ 500.00
McElwee FEHB Agency contribution	\$ -			\$ 3,500.00
GS-5 Asst Crew Lead FEHB Agent cont	\$ -			\$ 2,500.00
Unemployment Benefits	\$ -			\$ 5,000
PPE/Safety Equipment	\$ -			\$ 2,000.00
<small>For CPW use only. Approximate number of workhours</small>	2,153.21		<b>Category Total</b>	<b>\$ 94,202.98</b>
<b>II. Project Materials/Supplies</b> <small>Identify as: Signs, rock, lumber, paint, nails, printing, maps/guides, education materials, etc.</small>				
Materials and Supplies	Price Per	Quantity	Total	
Materials and Supplies	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 4,137.02
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
			<b>Category Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,137.02</b>
<b>III. Equipment</b> <small>Identify as: Trail Dozers, ATV/UTV, motorcycle, chainsaws, winches, field equipment rentals, equipment fuel, repairs, and operations, etc.</small>				
ATV/Motorcycle Maintenance	\$ -			\$ 1,000.00
Chainsaw supplies/maintenance	\$ -			\$ 1,000.00
Fleet Fuel	\$ -			\$ 1,160.00
Equipment Fuel	\$ -			\$ 300.00
			<b>Category Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,460.00</b>

<b>III.A. FLEET Equipment</b>				
<i>Identify as:</i> Crew Fleet Vehicles/Trucks monthly FOR & USE, Fleet Equipment monthly USE.				
Fleet F.O.R. truck # 2756 \$225.00 x12 months	\$	-	\$	-
	\$	-		\$ 2,700.00
			<b>Category Total</b>	<b>\$2,700.00</b>
<b>IV. Contracted Services</b>				
<i>Identify as:</i> Youth Corps, NEPA, planning, engineering, construction contractor/subcontractor costs				
Pump Idleglen Vault Toilets	\$	-		\$ 500.00
	\$	-		\$ -
	\$	-		\$ -
			<b>Category Total</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>
<b>V. Volunteer Support</b>				
<i>Identify as: 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.				
	\$	-		\$ -
	\$	-		\$ -
	\$	-		\$ -
			<b>Category Total</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 105,000.00</b>

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.

<b>Project Name</b>	<u>Grand Lake Trail Crew</u>	<b>Project Sponsor</b>	<u>Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forest, Sulphur Ranger District</u>
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As the official responsible for management of the land on which the project will be accomplished, I agree to the following:

1. The project as described in this application has my approval.
2. The project is located on federal public lands and is in conformance with the appropriate Forest Management Plan, BLM Resource Area Management Plan or other decision document titled:

<u>ARNFPNG 1997 Land and Resource Management Plan</u>	<b>Date:</b> <u>11/19/1997</u>
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3. A decision has been issued as part of the NEPA environmental review process.

Date and title of document:

**This proposal is for Trail Maintenance of the Grand Lake Multiple -Use Trail System. Use of the Grand Lake Trail System has been analyzed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement for The 1997 Revision of the Land and Resource Management Plan for the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland. The project is within the Little Gravel, Parcka, and Stillwater Geographic areas where specific direction is given in the Forest Plan to "Manage the area's Off Highway Vehicle and Mountain Bike trail system for heavy summer use". This project is consistent with the direction as outlined in the Forest plan and we do not anticipate any changes to the current management direction in the existing Plan.**

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:

Miles Miller, USDA Forest Service, Arapaho NF, Sulphur RD  
 970-887-4126 miles.miller@usda.gov

4. The next planning process that may affect this project is planned for. N/A

Eric Freels, District Ranger, Arapaho National Forest, Sulphur Ranger District

Print or type Land Manager's Name and Title

**ERIC FREELS** Digitally signed by ERIC FREELS  
 Date: 2022.11.30 08:16:43 -07'00'

Land Manager Signature and Title

Date

# GRAND LAKE TRAIL CREW GOALS FOR THE 2023 FIELD SEASON

- Assessment and clearing of OHV trails on the Sulphur RD, converting the systems from winter use to summer use, constructing barriers to protect sensitive areas, rebuilding trail bridges/turnpikes and implementing extensive erosion control and hazard tree mitigation measures because of the East Troublesome and Williams Fork Fires.
- Provide consistent weekend, holiday and heavy use area patrols within the Grand Lake Trail System to educate and inform users of pertinent rules and regulations while protecting the resource and continue to promote the State OHV registration program.
- Work to reclaim and re-establish the Grand Lake Trail system to a high standard while continuing to promote and sustain quality motorized trails across the Sulphur RD.
- Continue to improve water quality and wildlife habitat on public lands by identifying and decommissioning user created routes and making public contacts to encourage users to stay on MVUM system routes. Also, by implementing erosion control projects to limit uncontrolled runoff and resource damage in the wake of the severe 2020 fires.
- Continue to utilize trail dozer and mini-excavator to construct drainage features and perform trail reconstruction on segments of OHV trails impacted by the intense fire activity in 2020. Continue to develop safe/efficient trail machine operators in the sustainable construction of OHV trails and drainage features.
- Continue to repair and rehabilitate OHV trails and facilities affected by wildfires. Implement extensive erosion control strategies and techniques related to motorized trails and resource protection in wildfire affected areas.



# **Good OHV Management Program**

## **Grand Lake Trail Crew 2023 Work Plan**

### **Work Plan:**

The scope of work for 2023 will include; tasks including but not limited to; trail clearing, construction of structures i.e. bridges and turnpikes, construction and cleaning of drainage structures, new trail construction, trail reconstruction, trail rerouting, hazard tree removal, buck and rail construction, sign installation and associated travel management, supervision of volunteers and youth corps crews on trail related projects and events, as well as enforcement of state and federal regulations throughout the Grand Lake Trail system in the Stillwater area. The area encompasses approximately 150,000 acres of mountainous terrain consisting of mixed lodgepole pine and spruce and fir forests. The area ranges in elevation from 8,500 feet at the Idleglen staging area to over 12,000 feet on the summit of Parkview Mountain. The Grand Lake Trail System contains approximately 190 miles of OHV open routes winding through beautiful mountain forests offering spectacular scenic alpine vistas. The system consists of 46 miles of multiple use motorized trails including 20.4 miles of motorized single-track (9 miles of new trail currently being rehabilitated after the E.T.F.) as well as 154 miles of OHV open roads. The crew also has additional responsibility for maintenance of 34 miles of motorized trails and 200 miles of OHV open roads in other locations across the district.

### **Overview for the 2023 Season:**

The Grand Lake Trail Crew will spend the majority of their time (40%) performing their primary function of trail maintenance (e.g. erosion controls, water bars and culverts, trail clearing and brushing, trail hardening, trail construction, reconstruction, and trail tread repairs, trail rerouting and decommissioning, bridge and turnpike construction and repairs etc).

The crew will spend approximately (17%) of their time performing travel management work (including Planning & Travel Plan Implementation). Installing TM and directional signs, decommissioning user created routes, and distributing MVUM maps.

The crew will spend approximately (25%) of their time making public contacts, educating and informing the public for resource protection and law enforcement in support of the State OHV sound and registration programs. Additionally, education of forest visitors regarding the mountain beetle epidemic and the dangers of falling dead trees as well as wildfire potential and danger levels are major priorities.

The crew will spend the remaining (18%) of their time maintaining equipment/materials, procuring/constructing and installing materials/signs in support of their program. Additionally, some time will be utilized performing administrative tasks in support of the program.

### **Objectives:**

1. Continued implementation of projects associated with the re-establishment of the Grand Lake Trail System and perform maintenance on the remainder of Sulphur's OHV routes (roads, two track and single-track trails) in the Grand Lake Trail system as well as other motorized trails on the district.

2. Construct and maintain 200 drainage structures (water bars/grade dips) on OHV routes on the Sulphur Ranger District.
3. Perform heavy trail maintenance and repair on the core Stillwater OHV Area and the Illinois Pass trail. Utilize trail dozer and mini excavator on district to perform drainage feature maintenance and construction, tread repair and rerouting. Continually develop safe, skilled operators while emphasizing proper implementation of sustainably built trail and features.
4. Make public contacts on weekends, holidays and peak use periods to educate users about the State Off-Highway Vehicle Registration program, The "Stay the Trail" educational program, spark arrestor requirements, state sound testing requirements and any other violations under the code of federal regulations.
5. Remove hazard trees from roads, trails and campgrounds in the Stillwater Pass area to increase public safety. Wildfire affected areas in Williams Fork and Stillwater Pass will be a major focus of this work.
6. Provide support and technical expertise to the Colorado Off-Highway Vehicle Workshop by attending the event and supporting presentations and trainings.
7. Support National Public Lands Day by providing technical expertise and supporting the trail projects with preparatory work prior to the event, and assistance the day of the event.
8. Utilize trail dozer and mini-excavator to implement erosion control measures and reestablish OHV routes lost as a result of the fires in 2020. Develop safe, efficient trail machine operators in the sustainable design and construction of trails and drainage features.

### **Challenges:**

As a result of the mountain pine beetle epidemic that has occurred over the past two decades, we have several ongoing challenges. As the decadent stands of lodgepole pine trees have been obliterated by the beetle epidemic and the East Troublesome Fire, there has been a significant increase in hazard trees falling across roads and trails and in dispersed camping areas throughout our district. It is our goal to ensure that all areas of the National Forest are safe for public use and the workload associated with the East Troublesome and Williams Fork Fires is significant. Additionally, with heavy spring runoff and summer thunderstorms trail damage has been significant in these fire affected areas. Because of the loss of ground covering vegetation and decreased permeability of soils created by intense fire, much of the water that was historically absorbed into the ground for use by trees now remains on the surface resulting in increased erosion on both roads and trails. As many of us are aware, the pine beetle epidemic as described above has resulted in some of the largest and most devastating wildfires the state has ever seen. Locally, several OHV trails in the Williams Fork area have been significantly impacted by the Williams Fork Fire and will require extensive reconstruction and implementation of erosion mitigation

techniques using trail dozers and other trail equipment. In addition, the East Troublesome Fire decimated the entire Grand Lake Trail System in the Stillwater Pass area and will pose significant challenges as the Sulphur Ranger District works to limit erosion and reclaim and re-establish this premier OHV opportunity for Colorado. We strive to provide high quality experiences for visitors to the Grand Lake Trail System by maximizing safety and providing fun trails to ride.

## E-1 Vicinity Map

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

