

**2024-2025
Off-Highway Vehicle Program
State Trail Grant Application**

**01
NE-E**



COLORADO
Parks and Wildlife
Department of Natural Resources

Name of Project: <i>South Park Equipment 2025</i>		Date of Application: 12/1/2023
<i>(Please limit the project name to 5 words or less)</i>		
Total Project Cost: \$185,247.00	Grant Request: \$23,909.00	
<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: USFS, Pike National Forest – South Park Ranger District		
Mailing Address: PO Box 219 Fairplay, CO 80440		
Telephone: 719-225-3329	Email: Jason.looby@usda.gov	
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: Jason Looby	Title: Natural Resource Specialist	
Mailing Address: PO Box 219 Fairplay, CO 80440		
Telephone: 719-225-3329	Email: Jason.looby@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: Jason looby	Title: Natural Resource Specialist	
Mailing Address: PO Box 219 Fairplay, CO 80440		
Telephone: 719-225-3329	Email: Jason.looby@usda.gov	
GRANTS & AGREEMENTS SPECIALIST (USFS only) or BUDGET CONTACT (BLM only)		
Name: Richard Maestas	Title: Grants and Agreements Specialist	
Mailing Address: 2840 Kachina Drive Pueblo CO 81008		
Telephone: 719-553-1443	Email: Richard.maestas@usda.gov	

PROJECT LOCATIONNearest Town or City: **Fairplay and Lake George**County(ies): **Teller and Park**

Provide a point of reference for mapping purposes (i.e. a google searchable landscape feature):

Township/Range/Section: **T10S, R78W, Sec 9,10,11,14,15,16,22**State Senate District #: **02**State Representative District #: **60****LAND OWNERSHIP**

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

2. The trail corridor is controlled by: Fee Simple Lease Easement License Right-of-Way Land Acquisition Ownership to be obtained Other (explain): **USFS****TRAIL SYSTEM INFORMATION** (List the number of miles for each type of OHV trail in your area)Miles of Singletrack: **10**Miles of 50" or less: **15**Miles of Full-sized: **700+****TRAIL USER INFORMATION** (Please check all that apply to the work planned for this project) All-Terrain Vehicle Side x Side Full Sized 4X4 Motorcycling Four-Wheeling Accessible Access**PROJECT INFORMATION** (Please check all activities that apply to this project.)

Include detailed information for each in the Project Scope of Work.

 Trail Maintenance Travel Plan Implementation ***New Trail Construction** miles / ft. _____
(Approved through Travel Mgt Decision) Resource Protection & Improvement ***Major Re-Route** miles / ft. closed _____
(that will require new or additional *environmental* approvals)
miles / ft. added _____ Signs Youth Corps Restoration/Rehabilitation (existing corridor) Planning Visitor Contacts & Law Enforcement Capital Equipment Education 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 0%	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.)
0%	Enforcement, Education & Visitor Contacts (e.g., patrols, enforcement, education and visitor contacts, wages, safety contacts, equipment, etc.)
0%	Planning & Travel Plan Implementation (e.g., planning, engineering, maps, inventorying, travel management signs & installation, decommission non-system routes, rehabilitation, new construction, wages, monitoring, etc.)
100%	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: SPKRD Equipment 2025	Project No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Project Sponsor: USDA Forest Service	Application Year: 2024-2025
Project Contact: Jason Looby	Application No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Total Project Cost: \$185,247.00	Grant Request: \$23,909.00

Project Description:

The South Park Ranger District (SPKRD) on the Pike National Forest is requesting funding for our 2025 OHV program. The South Park Ranger District is responsible for managing 459,599 acres of public land that is in close proximity to two major metropolitan cities, Colorado Springs and Denver. This makes SPKRD one of the most highly used and populated districts in the state of Colorado.

The SPKRD OHV program is responsible for over 700 miles of motorized trails and roads open to OHV's. The project areas are located in Teller County and Park County on the Pike National Forest within the South Park Ranger District. More specifically the Badger Flats, Cedar Mountain, Packer Gulch, Rock Springs and Sheep Mountain riding areas. These areas are extremely popular due to their urban interface with two populated cities, trail accessibility, riding opportunities for different skill levels and the many other recreational opportunities that these areas have to offer.

We are requesting funding to purchase two new dirt bikes for the OHV crew as the current bikes were purchased in 2008 and are unreliable, needing a lot of upkeep and maintenance to keep them running and are more suited for taller more experienced riders. We are looking to purchase bikes that are lighter making them easier to maneuver on technical single track trails on the district. We are also planning on converting them to be street legal for easier and faster trail access.

The South Park OHV crew will recognize the importance of our partners including CPW's OHV program by placing "Colorado OHV Registration Dollars at Work" stickers/signs on the newly purchased dirt bikes as well as trail system signs, kiosks and equipment used throughout the forest. The four-person OHV trail crew will also wear hardhats and shirts with the "Colorado OHV Registration dollars at work" logo. As always public contacts include discussion about the importance for OHV's to be registered and how the OHV registration funds are being used to support the Districts OHV program.

The SPKRD understands the budgetary challenges that exist to maintain a quality OHV program. We appreciate that funding was approved for the 2024 SPKRD OHV trails crew. Without the support of the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Off-Highway Vehicle Program, the success of the SPKRD motorized trail program would not be possible. The South Park RD truly appreciates this funding opportunity and looks forward to working together to provide a positive and safe environment for the public to enjoy.

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	\$ -
* 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				
			Total	\$ 23,909.00

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FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION and LAND MANAGER APPROVAL

The applicant is responsible for securing all necessary permits, licenses, clearances, SHPO, and environmental analysis documentation necessary to comply with local, state, and/or federal laws.

Project
Name

South Park Equipment 2025

Project
Sponsor

Jason Looby

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:

Pike and San Isabel National Forest Land and Resource
Management Plan

Date: 1984

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

Date and title of document:

N/A

If a decision has not been issued as part of the NEPA environmental review process, please state the reason why. No funds will be distributed until any required NEPA documentation is completed.


For more information about the NEPA environmental review process, contact:

Jason Looby, Natural Resource Specialist, 719-836-2031

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

Josh Voorhis, District Ranger

Print or type Land Manager's Name and Title


Land Manager Signature and Title

11/2/2023
Date

D-1

PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA

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

The Pike National Forest is one of the most widely known and visited forests in the state of Colorado due to not only the two neighboring large cities in close proximity (Denver and Colorado Springs) but also because it is home to America's Mountain; Pikes Peak. That and many other attractions brings millions of visitors to the front range area each year and a multitude of these visitors are motorized enthusiasts who want to get out somewhere close to ride trails and experience what this great state has to offer. We also have a great community of OHV enthusiasts living in the area who utilize the trails regularly. This has its benefits for the local economy, but it also has a major impact on our natural resources and forests in the surrounding areas. We have seen a major spike in recreational and OHV use in the last three years and it's not slowing down any time soon. Stated earlier this forest has a variety of riding opportunities for all skill levels for UTV's, ATV's, Dirt Bikes and 4x4's, on South Park RD alone we have over 700 miles of OHV trails. With the new dirt bikes the OHV crew would have easier and faster access to all the trail systems on the district. With less travel/trailer time there would be increased time for trail maintenance and rider outreach and education.

The trail maintenance and user interaction will be better served by having these dirt bikes. The crew will be able to ride the trails as the users do making it easier to monitor the needs and maintenance of the trail systems. It will also build comradery among fellow riders and dirt bike enthusiasts seeing the OHV crew out riding, enjoying and maintaining the trails regularly. Really seeing their "dollars at work" in action! Having more user friendly and reliable bikes will allow the crew to be out on bikes exponentially more and increase productivity for the SPKRD OHV program.

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

The SPKRD works closely with many outside organizations and volunteers. In 2023, over 3,000 hours of volunteer work were coordinated by the South Park Ranger District through outside organizations, totaling \$91,826. This work included many hours donated by the following organizations: Mile High Jeep Club, Colorado Four Wheelers, Rampart Range Motorcycle Management Committee, Coalition for the Upper South Platte, Colorado Mountain Club, Wildland Restoration Volunteers, Focus on The Forest, Mile High Youth Corp. and Wild Connections. Most of these volunteer projects took place in the Badger Flats and Packer Gulch riding areas, but several projects were completed throughout the district to support travel management.

The SPKRD hopes to continue to keep our bonds with outside organizations and volunteer groups strong. The \$23,909 OHV grant will provide funding for two new dirt bikes to help OHV crew members lead and support bigger volunteer projects and trail maintenance. With crew members riding along with the volunteers more production and comradery will be accomplished. This funding will also allow the crew to continue our previous efforts in coordinating with outside organizations and volunteer groups to complete projects, improve roads and trails, and continue the implementation of the Badger Flats Management Plan.

Many of our partners have provided letters of support for our grant and are included in the application package. These partners work closely with our OHV trail crew and the work would not be possible without a collaborative effort.

Inkind Matching Item	Description	Inkind \$
Operational Crew Various Field Trainings, Uniforms and PPE	ATV, motorcycle, chainsaw, driver license, FPO recert. & trailer towing certifications	\$4,000
Crew personnel mandatory training	Computer, IR's, inhouse operations: no fear, civil rights, defens drive, 1 st aid/CPR	\$2,000
Electronics	GPS, Tablets, work cell phones	\$1,000
Fleet vehicles	Additional support of fixed cost fleet vehicles	\$12,000
Communications Equipment	Vehicle radios, handheld radios, other equipment	\$4,000
ATV/Motorcycles/UTV usage	4 ATVS, UTV and trailers	\$7,000
Hand tools & shop expenses	Drill press, table saw, air compressor, cordless drills, chainsaws, rock bars	\$5,000
SPKRD Employee Salary costs (oversight)	Trails, Operations, Rec Planner, Transportation Planner	\$26,512
Volunteer Labor	Individuals, organized groups, clubs	\$91,826.00
Signs/materials/hardware		\$5,000
TOTAL In-Kind matching Cost		\$161,338
State Parks OHV Grant Request	SPKRD EQUIPMENT GRANT 2025	\$23,909.00
TOTAL Project Cost		\$185,247

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

(25 points):

The purchasing of two new dirt bikes will promote more protection of sensitive environmental resources by providing the SPKRD OHV crew with safe and reliable access into some of the more technical and secluded areas on the district. The crew will be able to cover more ground in less time, finding, observing and monitoring OHV use in sensitive areas. With the information gathered from frequent motorcycle patrols we will be able to stop illegal use before it begins to negatively affect wildlife habitats and the surrounding natural resources.

While out riding the crew will also be able to determine trail maintenance areas; where to improve drainage structures, repair damage from excessive runoff, minor re-routes of sections of trail due to unsustainability, hardened crossings and possible bridge construction sites. Being able to patrol on motorcycles more often will exponentially enhance the OHV's crew ability to protect, restore and improve the environment by addressing existing problems and minimizing impacts made by OHV users.

Large Equipment Purchases, Maintenance and Disposition:

The SPKRD OHV crew will be responsible for the operations and maintenance of these two new motorcycles. Within the last few years our employee retention has been excellent and is forecasted to remain the same. With this we are fortunate to have a crew with an abundance of knowledge on the upkeep and maintenance of motorized machines. This will allow for a longer life cycle of these new machines. The bikes will remain at the Lake George Work Center locked up in a secure cargo container on site. In the fall time before the winter they will be winterized and placed on a battery tenders to ensure that they are prepared and ready for the start of the next season.

The estimated annual budget for the upkeep, maintenance and fuel of these machines is around \$1,000.00. We estimate that we will run these machines anywhere from 100-150hrs a season to ensure proper maintenance of our trail systems. Expected annual costs for future operations and maintenance of the machines will remain low if the bikes are properly ridden and maintained. An estimated \$1,000 – \$3,000 is our future prediction for costs and would be dependent on OHV grant funding. If there ever is a time we will no longer need the services of these bikes we would award them over to the CPW OHV State Trails Crew or whoever they deemed it necessary to go to.

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

Travel Management:

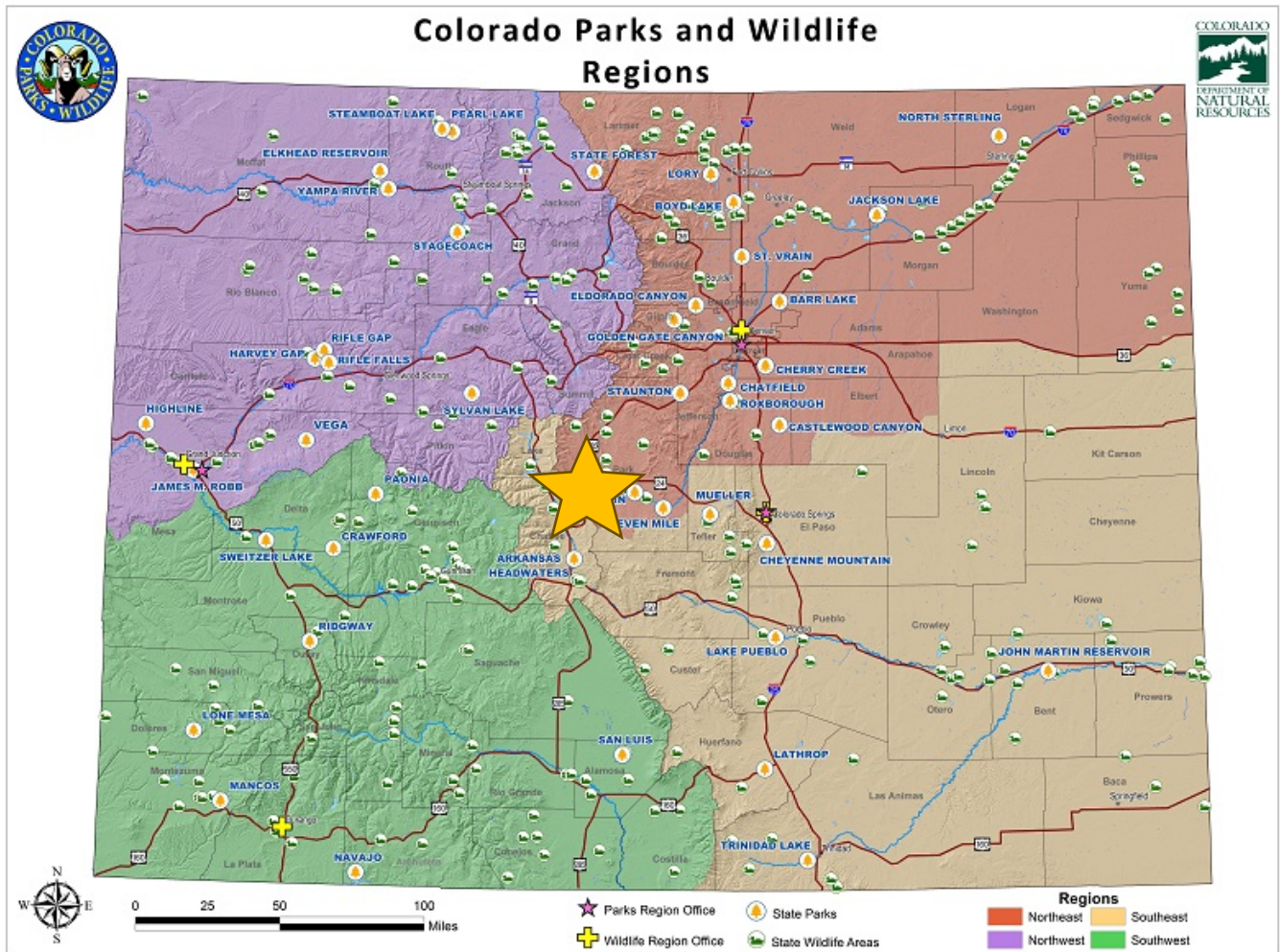
With the purchasing of these two new trail machines, it will employ a multitude of travel management measures including, maintaining trails and roads up to standard, increasing visitor contacts, being able to cover more ground in a single day to increase sign installment and ensure that OHV regulations are being followed. Poorly maintained trails can lead to off road use and illegal routes which cause erosion and other damaging effects on the natural resources in the surrounding areas. Damaged resources cause upset and conflict among different user groups and applies added pressure to close OHV routes. To be able to get to more areas faster we will be able to apply more pressure to this illegal use and stop damage before it becomes a bigger issue. By improving the amount of maintenance, construction and rehabilitation we can do on the forest, it will ensure a long-term OHV management plan that will be beneficial to all user groups on the Pike National Forest.

Education, Enforcement and Compliance Activities:

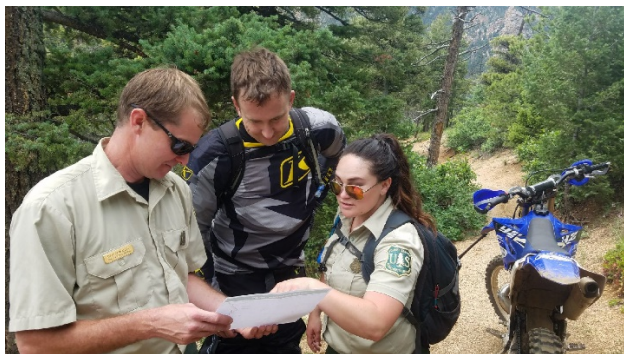
With more reliable and safe means of transportation for the South Park OHV Crew the crew will be able to patrol more often on dirt bikes. This as stated earlier will enact more comradery amongst fellow dirt bike and OHV enthusiasts. It will open the doors to be able to meet forest users on the same level and hopefully create a more open approach to education and enforcement. The crew will encourage responsible use by targeting an on the ground approach to educating the public on OHV rules and regulations.

With a more frequent presence in these OHV areas, it will also help with compliance and enforcement. While patrolling in Forest Service trucks, ATV's or UTV's there are limits to where you can take them, on a dirt bike your access to areas is greater. This will help with enforcement as well, ensuring that our FPO's and Law Enforcement officers can get into area's where they have not been able to access before except on foot, which has a higher risk value. Consistent enforcement in these areas will help slow down and potentially stopping illegal use all together.

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



Dirt Bike Patrols



South Park Ranger Districts OHV Crew 2023





Coalition for the Upper South Platte

Post Office Box 726
Lake George, Colorado 80827
EIN: 84-1469785

October 30, 2023

Mr. Tom Metsa
OHV Program Manager
Colorado Parks and Wildlife

RE: South Park Ranger District OHV Grant Application

Mr. Metsa and OHV Committee Members;

The Coalition for the Upper South Platte (CUSP) supports The South Park Ranger District OHV grant applications for an OHV trail crew and equipment. Our organization is a longtime partner with the South Park Ranger District on some very large projects and appreciates their persistent efforts to maintain and improve sustainable motorized trails in the Pike National Forest. This is the playground where the city meets the mountains and a large part of the recreation that occurs in this Ranger District is OHV use.

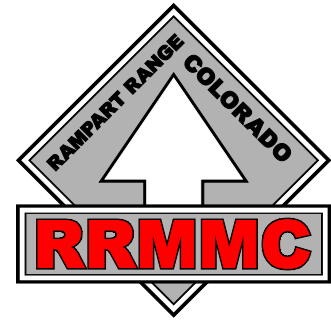
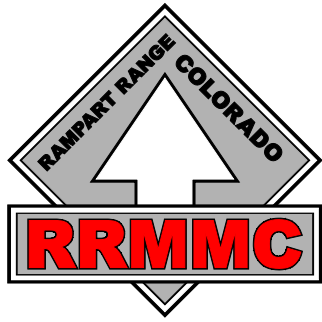
CUSP is a non-profit organization located in Lake George, CO that works in Teller, Jefferson, Douglas, Park and El Paso Counties. We specialize in pre-fire mitigation, forest health, post fire recovery, river restoration and trail work. Over the years, we have developed many collaborative partnerships throughout the watershed and the state to accomplish work. Some of our strongest partners are the Ranger Districts on the Pike National Forest.

The proposed OHV trail crews will benefit public lands on the South Park Ranger District by emphasizing a holistic approach that provides OHV opportunities while protecting sensitive areas on the Ranger District. In addition, sustainable trails also prevent severe erosion into waterways and thus help riparian areas maintain a healthy balance. As one of Colorado State Park's first trail coordinators in 2001, I know first-hand the importance of these crews in maintaining trails and more importantly being good ambassadors to OHV riders on the landscape.

These crews are important to continue responsible management of motorized use in the South Park Ranger District and I strongly recommend it for funding.

Best Regards,

John Geerdes
Executive Director/CEO
Coalition for the Upper South Platte
johngeerdes@culp.ws



**RAMPART RANGE
MOTORIZED MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, INC.**

PO BOX 3511, ENGLEWOOD, CO 80155

FOUNDED 1972

November 01, 2023

Mr. Tom Metsa
Colorado State Parks
OHV Program Manager
13787 So. Highway 85
Littleton, CO 80125

Dear Mr. Metsa and members of the OHV committee,

RRMMC has worked alongside the Pike & San Isabel National Forest multiple times on volunteer projects. Most recently, RRMMC worked with the South Park Ranger District to re-route an unsustainable section of trail in the Sheep Mountain area. This was part of a larger effort to convert a full size trail to single-track. RRMMC found the district employees incredibly qualified and capable to perform this work. Since this latest collaboration, I have had the opportunity to ride trails in the district and witness the amount of work that has taken place. For example, a new trailhead was established with a loading ramp and fencing, new signage was erected, several single track restrictor gates have been installed, many more trails have been re-routed for more sustainable routes; the list of completed work is long. It's clear that the South Park Ranger District has the need and ability to responsibly manage OHV funds.

RRMMC strongly supports the OHV grant application of the South Park Ranger District. We appreciate and applaud the South Park Ranger Districts persistent efforts to maintain and improve motorized trails for a sustainable future. RRMMC encourages the OHV grant committee to approve their grant application so they can continue the excellent work they've been completing in their district.

Sincerely,

Brandon Harris
RRMMC Treasurer and Trails Committee Member



Heal the Land
Build Community

November 7, 2023

Tom Metsa
OHV Program Manager
Colorado State Parks

Dear Mr. Metsa and OHV committee members,

Wildlands Restoration Volunteers (WRV) supports the Forest Service's application for OHV grants from Colorado State Parks program to maintain and improve OHV roads in the Pike San Isabel National Forest. WRV organizes thousands of volunteers each year to complete more than 150 conservation projects throughout Colorado's beautiful natural landscapes both in the plains and high alpine areas. WRV has completed numerous trail and road restoration projects in collaboration with the Pike-San Isabel National Forests & Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands (PSICC) across more than a decade. We could not complete the critical work we do in our forests without the cooperation and collaboration of our partners within the U.S. Forest Service.

I strongly support the two OHV grant applications of the South Park Ranger District (SPKRD). I appreciate and applaud their persistent efforts to maintain and improve motorized trails in the South Park region while promoting responsible use. They continue to work to advance the safety and enjoyment of off highway vehicle use while protecting and sustaining our natural resources. Motorized recreation has become more prevalent in this area, and maintaining and preserving it is not only essential for the local economy but also for the generations to come.

I would like to commend the South Park Ranger District for its past and present efforts in this area and encourage you to approve their grant requests so they can actively promote and manage the OHV program on the South Park Ranger District.

Sincerely,

Morgan Crowley
Program Manager, Wildlands Restoration Volunteers

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Morgan Crowley", is written over a light blue circular stamp.



November 3, 2023

Mark Miquelon
President, Colorado Motorcycle Trail Riders Association
P.O. Box 38006
Colorado Springs, CO 80937

Tom Metsa
OHV Program Manager
Colorado State Parks

Dear Mr. Metsa and OHV committee members,

Write a paragraph or so that describes your organization and how these grant proposals will benefit your interests

I strongly support the two OHV grant applications of the South Park Ranger District (SPKRD). I appreciate and applaud their persistent efforts to maintain and improve motorized trails in the South Park region while promoting responsible use. They continue to work to advance the safety and enjoyment of off highway vehicle use while protecting and sustaining our natural resources. Motorized recreation has become more prevalent in this area, and maintaining and preserving it is not only essential for the local economy but also for the generations to come.

I would like to commend the South Park Ranger District for its past and present efforts in this area and encourage you to approve their grant requests so they can actively promote and manage the OHV program on the South Park Ranger District.

Sincerely,

Mark Miquelon
President
Colorado Motorcycle Trail Riders Association
719 440-8038
president@cmtra.org