

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

10  
 SW-M



<b>Name of Project:</b> Ouray Trail Dozer Maintenance Program	<b>Date of Application:</b> 11/07/2023
---	--

*(Please limit the project name to 5 words or less)*

<b>Total Project Cost:</b> \$296,973.00 <i>(round off to the nearest \$1)</i>	<b>Grant Request:</b> \$192,856.00 <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: **Ouray Ranger District (GMUG National Forest)**

Mailing Address: **2050 S Townsend Ave. Montrose, CO 81401**

Telephone: 970-240-5414      Email: joseph.knob@usda.gov

**OFFICIAL USE ONLY – UEI # (IF REQUIRED):**  
<https://sam.gov/content/duns-uei>

**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 *Project Contact* changes.

Name: Joseph Knob      Title: Trails Coordinator

Mailing Address: 2505 S Townsend Ave.  
 Montrose, CO

Telephone: 970-240-5414      Email: joseph.knob@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 *Project Contact* changes.

Name: Joseph Knob      Title: Trails Coordinator

Mailing Address: 2505 S Townsend Ave  
 Montrose, CO 81401

Telephone: 970-240-5414      Email: joseph.knob@usda.gov

**GRANTS & AGREEMENTS SPECIALIST (USFS only) or BUDGET CONTACT (BLM only)**

Name: Amy Sharp      Title: Grant/Agreements Specialists

Mailing Address: 1617 Cole Boulevard Building 17  
 Lakewood, CO 80401

Telephone: 720-689-7045      Email: amy.sharp@usda.gov



**PROJECT LOCATION**Nearest Town or City: **Montrose**County(ies): **Montrose, Ouray, Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale**[Montrose CO - Bing Maps](#)

Township/Range/Section:

State Senate District #: **5,6,7**State Representative District #: **54,58,61****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: 150 Miles of 50" or less: 160 Miles of Full-sized: \_\_\_\_\_**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* miles / ft. added \_\_\_\_\_  
*approvals*) 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.)

<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.)
<b>70</b>	
<b>10</b>	<b>Enforcement, Education &amp; Visitor Contacts</b> (e.g., patrols, enforcement, education and visitor contacts, wages, safety contacts, equipment, etc.)
<b>10</b>	<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.)
<b>10</b>	<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.)
<b>100</b>	<b>Total: (Note: Percentages should add to 100 %)</b>

**SCOPE OF WORK – Project Description:**

Project Name: <b>Ouray Trail Dozer Maintenance Program</b>	Project No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Project Sponsor: <b>Ouray Ranger District</b>	Application Year: 2024-2025
Project Contact: <b>Joseph Knob</b>	Application No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Total Project Cost: \$296,973.00	Grant Request: \$192,856.00

**Project Description:**

Stationed on the Ouray Ranger District for the U.S. Forest Service, the Ouray Dozer Maintenance Program has been a consistently strong asset to the Colorado OHV trails on the western slope and an example of *Colorado Registration Dollars at Work*. The mission of this program is to provide the public with safe, sustainable, and opportunity on federally managed trail systems. Based in Montrose, the program serves the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests as well as the BLM Uncompahgre Field Office. The annual workplan is developed with input from our partners, local communities, and neighboring federal agencies. Until the annual dozer meeting is conducted, the tentative schedule for the 2025 program consists of these goals:

- Early spring- prepare the equipment for the field season, repair/maintain tools, evaluate field conditions.
- Survey trails and compare condition to previous year.
- Early summer- start field work on the north end of the Uncompahgre Plateau working Picket Corral, Love Mesa Bench, Bear Pen, 47 Trail, and Cottonwood.
- Start supporting other districts in their needs as identified by annual meeting by splitting the dozer crew into two crews.
- Address local club adopted trails by completing projects as identified by clubs.
- Move dozer operations to the central portion of the Uncompahgre Plateau addressing needs on Moore Mesa, Roubideau, Traver, East Bull, and Parallel trails.
- Maintain the trails on the south end of the Uncompahgre Plateau: Spring Creek, Dented Door, Rim, and Dry Creek.
- Move to the High Country to work the Stealey Mountain area.
- Work the trails surrounding Silver Jack: Lou Creek, Fox Creek, West Fork, and Cowboy Lake Trail.
- Spend two weeks assisting the Gunnison Ranger District with their needs after Labor Day.
- Move operations to the Norwood Ranger District and work Bucktail Creek trail.
- Assist BLM Uncompahgre Field Office with their 50 in dozer needs.
- End field operations by completing inventory of work accomplished and start building scope of work for the next season.
- Complete season by winterizing equipment, complete minor repairs, perform annual inspections.

**Definitions:**

OHV- Off Highway Vehicle

BLM- Bureau of Land Management



## Budget Form

**Project Name: Ouray Trail Dozer Maintenance Program**

**Date Project will be Completed: 5/31/2026**

**Project Sponsor: USFS- Ouray Ranger District**

\*\*\*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)			\$ 192,856.00
Other Funding Sources	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>USFS Matching Funds \$104,117.00</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FS Trails Coordinator for 5 months	\$ 23,799	\$ -	\$ 23,799.00
Rec Staff (10 days)	\$ 4,510	\$ -	\$ 4,510.00
Grants/ Agreements Specialist (14 days)	\$ 5,760	\$ -	\$ 5,760.00
Forest Engineer (14 days)	\$ 5,775	\$ -	\$ 5,775.00
FS provided Dozer Truck (FOR) for first dozer truck	\$ 8,296	\$ -	\$ 8,296.00
FS provided Dump Trailer (FOR)	\$ 1,476	\$ -	\$ 1,476.00
FS provided Camp Trailer	\$ 8,000	\$ -	\$ 8,000.00
Fleet Management (14 days)	\$ 4,001	\$ -	\$ 4,001.00
Volunteer/Partners 2000hrs@ \$21.25 an hour	\$ -	\$ 42,500	\$ 42,500.00
<b>USE OF GRANT FUNDING</b>	<b>TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT</b>		<b>\$ 296,973.00</b>

List uses of grant funding (only) below

<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 day		Total Cost
WG-8 (18/8 permanent seasonal) - Jim Jackson	\$ 270.00	8 months = 140 days	\$ 37,800.00
WG-8 (18/8 permanent seasonal) - Russel Augustus	\$ 270.00	8 months = 140 days	\$ 37,800.00
WG-8 Season Equipment Operator	\$ 270.00	6 month=120 days	\$ 27,000.00
WG-5 Swamper (13/13 Career-Seasonal)	\$ 211.00	6 month=120 days	\$ 25,320.00
Per Diem 4 months each (Operators and swampers-4 days/week for 24 weeks)	124/week	4 days a week= 16 weeks	\$ 7,936.00
PPE/Outfitting cost/Safety Communication devices	\$ -		\$ 2,500.00
<small>For CPW use only: Approximate number of workhours</small>	512.43	<b>Category Total</b>	<b>\$ 138,356.00</b>
<b>II. Project Materials/Supplies</b>			
<small>Identify as: Signs, rock, lumber, paint, nails, printing, maps/guides, education materials, etc.</small>			
	Price Per	Quantity	Total
fuel filter, hydrolic fluids, propane, oils, grease, ect.	\$ -		\$ 2,500.00 \$ 2,500.00
misc- shop towels, hand cleaner, bungies, straps, ect.	\$ -		\$ 1,000.00 \$ 1,000.00
Storage container for equipment	\$ -		\$ 500.00 \$ 500.00
<b>Category Total</b>			<b>\$ 4,000.00</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>			
R&M- Dozer and equipment	\$ -		\$ 24,000.00 \$ 30,000.00
Fuel for dozers and machines	\$ -		\$ 8,000.00 \$ 8,000.00
<b>Category Total</b>			<b>\$ 38,000.00</b>
<b>III.A. FLEET Equipment</b>			
<small>Identify as: Crew Fleet Vehicles/Trucks monthly FOR &amp; USE, Fleet Equipment monthly USE.</small>			
FS (FOR) and mileage on 2nd Dozer truck for 6 months	\$ -		\$ 7,500.00 \$ 7,500.00
Management Fee for equipment for 6 months	\$ -		\$ 2,500.00 \$ 2,500.00
<b>Category Total</b>			<b>\$ 10,000.00</b>
<b>IV. Contracted Services</b>			
<small>Identify as: Youth Corps, NEPA, planning, engineering, construction contractor/subcontractor costs</small>			
	\$ -		\$ -
<b>Category Total</b>			<b>\$ -</b>
<b>V. Volunteer Support</b>			
<small>Identify as: <b>For Volunteers Only</b> 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>			
Training for volunteers such as: First Aid, CPR, chainsaw, ect.	\$ -		\$ 2,500.00 \$ 2,500.00
<b>Category Total</b>			<b>\$ 2,500.00</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 192,856.00</b>

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

# C-1

## FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION and LAND MANAGER APPROVAL

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

---

Project Name	<u>Ouray Trail Dozer Maintenance Program</u>	Project Sponsor	<u>Ouray Ranger District (GMUG National Forest)</u>
--------------	--	-----------------	---

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:

*Amended Land/Resource Mgt. Plan (GMUG Natl. Forest)*                      Date: **1991**

*Uncompahgre Natl. Forest Travel Plan-Record of Decision*                      **2002**

---

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

Date and title of document:

\_\_\_\_\_

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:

\_\_\_\_\_

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

**Dana Gardunio, District Ranger- Ouray RD**

Print or type Land Manager's Name and Title

**DANA GARDUNIO** Digitally signed by DANA GARDUNIO  
Date: 2023.11.08 14:44:20 -07'00'

Land Manager Signature and Title

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

## **PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA**

---

### **1. Need for & Benefit of the Project:**

The Ouray Dozer Maintenance Program is instrumental in addressing the maintenance needs of OHV trails on the western slope. With increasing visitation, the goal of this program is to continue providing exceptional opportunities to the OHV users by keeping up with the maintenance needs of the trails and opportunities for the public to enjoy the trails.

Staffing this program is one of the most important pieces for success. To date, the crew consists of two career-seasonal operators (WG-8's) to add stability to the program. The majority of funds requested through this grant will be used to pay 8 months of the salary for the operators and 6 months of salary for one WG-5 swamper and one WG8 operator. Because the swamper position has become one of the hardest to hire, we are requesting to turn one of them into a career-seasonal with them being on for 6 months and off for 6 months. These positions are crucial for the success of the dozer program and maintaining OHV trails. The remaining funds requested will be used for supplies/tools, repairs to the machines, and materials for the trails.

The Ouray Dozer Maintenance Program is responsible for OHV trail maintenance on the Ouray District, TMW adopted trails, Uncompahgre Valley Trail Riders adopted trails, spends two-three weeks on Gunnison OHV trails, and assists the neighboring districts and federal agencies as needed. There are over 500 miles of OHV trails on the forest and these dozers play a critical part in the maintenance needed to provide sustainable riding opportunities and good resource management.

The Dozer Program has excelled in OHV trail maintenance for such a large geographical area. The dozers are more effective and efficient in time and money maintaining 50in trails than when the GM OHV trail crew was used. The workload is now spread out to where the GM OHV trail crew can concentrate more on single track trail maintenance, signing, clearing, and other OHV trail related job duties. The dozer crews and trail crews are complimentary to one another in achieving the most cost effective and efficient practices in trail maintenance. The trail crew will clear the trails scheduled for dozer work and the dozer crew assists the trail crew on special projects occurring on ATV/Side-by-Side trails.

### **2. Partnerships, Support and Leverage:**

Based out of Montrose, the Ouray Dozer Maintenance Program is strategically situated to support a wide range of needs from partners, communities, and neighboring federal agencies. The Ouray Ranger District Dozer Program services the Uncompahgre Plateau, Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area, Dry Creek Management Area, Mountain Division, Gunnison, Paonia, and Norwood. The program is meant to be a resource for the whole Forest and BLM Uncompahgre Office, although the majority of dozer work occurs on Ouray managed trails. To be a resource for all motorized CO trails in the area, the Ouray Dozer Program consists of two dozer crews: two operators and two swampers. Equipment that is tied to the program includes:

- **SWECO 480 dozer (Thunder Mountain Wheelers owned through a CPW grant)**
- **Sutter 500 dozer (Thunder Mountain Wheelers owned through CPW grant)**
- **2018 900 Polaris RZR (purchased with CPW grant)**
- **2022 900 Polaris RZR (purchased with CPW grant)**
- **2 camp trailers (FS owned)**
- **2 Heavy duty equipment trailers (one purchased with CPW grant and one FS owned)**
- **2 trucks to haul the dozer and trailers (one owned by FS and one leased through CPW grant)**
- **1 dump trailer (FS owned)**

Being such an important asset to Colorado motorized trails, much time, effort, and funds have gone into maintaining this program's success. Acknowledging this importance, the Forest Service is committed to its success. The Trails Coordinator position was developed and funded by the Forest Service to manage the Dozer Program and OHV Good Management Program. Two career-seasonal dozer operator positions were

approved and hired at the beginning of the 2022 field season. Having these career positions adds stability to the program.

Partnerships are an integral part of the Dozer Program. Besides the funding provided through CPW grants, Thunder Mountain Wheelers, Uncompahgre Valley Trail Riders, WESTCORE, and the BLM Uncompahgre Field Office all benefit and help guide the work of the program as well as the local communities this program works in and around. Through the annual dozer meeting, the FS Trails Coordinator communicates with these organization about needs on the ground and works to address them. This meeting is important because these organizations are important in developing the seasonal workplan of the program and are consulted on the needs that are seen on the ground that the dozers can address. In this way, the yearly workplan is developed and the program can successfully maintain and enhance OHV trails.

Both dozers, RZR's and other support equipment have the *Colorado Registration Dollars at Work* decal on them in support of the State OHV Grant Program. The crew also wears shirts that have the Stay the Trail, Forest Service, and the State's *Colorado Registration Dollars at Work* logo on them.

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

The Ouray Dozer Maintenance Program is not only an important part of the Ouray Ranger District but an integral component of maintenance on the local trails on federally managed lands. With a huge emphasis on efficiency and productivity, this program can only achieve this standard by funding the dozers and this program. Always striving to achieve sustainability in every maintenance project, this program is always trying to meet that standard. Offering OHV recreational opportunities while sustainably managing the landscape is one reason this program is able to provide exceptional experiences on Colorado OHV trails. Keeping these trails maintained in good shape offers the public the ability to enjoy their lands.

Having two dozers for this program is key for achieving frequent maintenance on OHV trails. Being able to rotate maintenance on trails and the quick timeframe of the dozers on the trails is essential in preventing time consuming issues to occur. With sustainability being the objective, impacts resulting from recreation use has been minimized, resulting in improved trail conditions and stability. When greater attention to stability of trails is needed, the dozer is able to assist in installing grass paver, cinder blocks, and hardening water crossings. For projects such as these, volunteers and the Trail Crew members help to expedite the process.

With the delay in starting the ground operations for the 2023 field season, the ability to have two dozers ready to go was critical in addressing maintenance needs. With the public anxious to ride the trails before they were sufficiently dry, this program played an important part in the maintenance needs and addressed resource protection in a timely manner. Ruts were fixed, creek crossings were hardened, drainages were fixed, and trail corridors were improved. Addressing these issues, the dozer operators were able to minimize erosion, protect the natural resource, and keep users on existing trails.

#### ***Large Equipment Purchases, Maintenance and Disposition:***

In order to be effective and function, the Ouray Dozer Maintenance Program consists of these crucial pieces of equipment:

- **SWECO 480 dozer (Thunder Mountain Wheelers owned through a CPW grant)**
- **Sutter 500 dozer (Thunder Mountain Wheelers owned through CPW grant)**
- **2018 900 Polaris RZR (purchased with CPW grant)**
- **2022 900 Polaris RZR (purchased with CPW grant)**
- **2 camp trailers (FS owned)**
- **2 Heavy duty equipment trailers (one purchased with CPW grant and one FS owned)**
- **2 trucks to haul the dozer and trailers (one owned by FS and one leased through CPW grant)**
- **1 dump trailer (FS owned)**

The funding requested through this grant is important to cover fuel, equipment repairs and maintenance, and supplies. With the volatility of fuel prices, a substantial amount is being requested to operate. The difficulty of obtaining repair parts and their cost also increases the amount requested to fund repairs. To account for the difficulty of obtaining repair parts and the time to obtain them, a large portion of the budget reflects the proactivity to have enough parts on hand where the operators can repair the

equipment in a timely manner and return the dozers to trail maintenance. With minimal repairs in the 2025 season, it is projected that the operators will be able to spend 250-300 dozer engine hours on trail maintenance. To help achieve this number, more time is being devoted to the beginning of season and end of season maintenance of the equipment.

#### **4. Travel Management Plan Implementation, Education and Enforcement:**

The 2002 GMUG Travel Management Plan is the current document being used for direction and guidance on the Forest. Compliance with this travel plan continues to improve as we continue to stress the importance of public education, improved and consistent signage, and trail applications:

- Installation of OHV width restrictors – prevents full size and >50" OHVs from accessing our 50 in. trails.
- Installation of OHV cattle guards to replace stock gates where the trail goes through a range allotment
- Provide well maintained trails for all user groups – prevents reroutes, trail braiding, and user created damage
- Seeding, natural closures and other rehabilitation applications on old reroutes.
- All trail work is in compliance with USFS standard guidelines for trail maintenance and construction for trail sustainability

#### ***Education:***

Public contact is one of our best educational opportunities to have conversations with the public regarding:

- How OHV registration dollars are used to help maintain OHV trails
- Critical in demonstrating how this program operates and maintains the trails
- What causes undesirable resource impacts, how these can be addressed and fixed, and how they as trail users can play a part in the prevention
- MVUMs (Motor Vehicle Use Maps) are provided along with educating the individuals on how to use them so they gain an understanding of the acceptable use of different trails
- Responsible trail use and trail etiquette by all users
- Importance of the States OHV funding is displayed on all of the equipment with the *Colorado Registration Dollars at Work* logos.

#### ***Enforcement and Compliance Activities:***

Contacting the public and explaining the reason for the rules and regulations is one of the most effective ways in achieving compliance. A huge asset is the amount of volunteer and user groups that are on public lands on a daily basis. The groups engage other members of the public and are able to increase compliance via direct outreach. With the dozer and OHV crews on the trails working, the public sees what is being accomplished and that they are actually paying for better trails with their OHV stickers. The public's awareness, interest, and ownership in the trails increases. The presence of trail dozer crews and trail crews on the landscape provides direct public awareness ensuring their understanding that rules and regulations will be enforced by FS personnel and FS law enforcement officers. During field contacts, vehicle registration is encouraged if the user does not have one and follow up is done to make sure the licenses were obtained by the individuals. Documentation of these contacts are written up in the daily crew logs and are also reported to the district's law enforcement officer. Efforts that have been made to make it easier for the public to follow the rules and regulations are:

- Providing consistent trail maintenance and trail access-decreasing user created routes
- Proper trail signing and Travel Management stickers on trails
- Motor Vehicle Use Maps that show the acceptable trail use
- Gates, natural barriers, rehabilitation of the decommissioned routes
- Public contacts reinforcing the importance of OHV registration stickers and how the funding benefits the trails they are using and responsible resource management

#### **Definitions:**

OHV - Off Highway Vehicle

UTV – Utility Vehicle

GMUG - Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison

FS – Forest Service

BLM - Bureau of Land Management

MVUM - Motor Vehicle Use Map

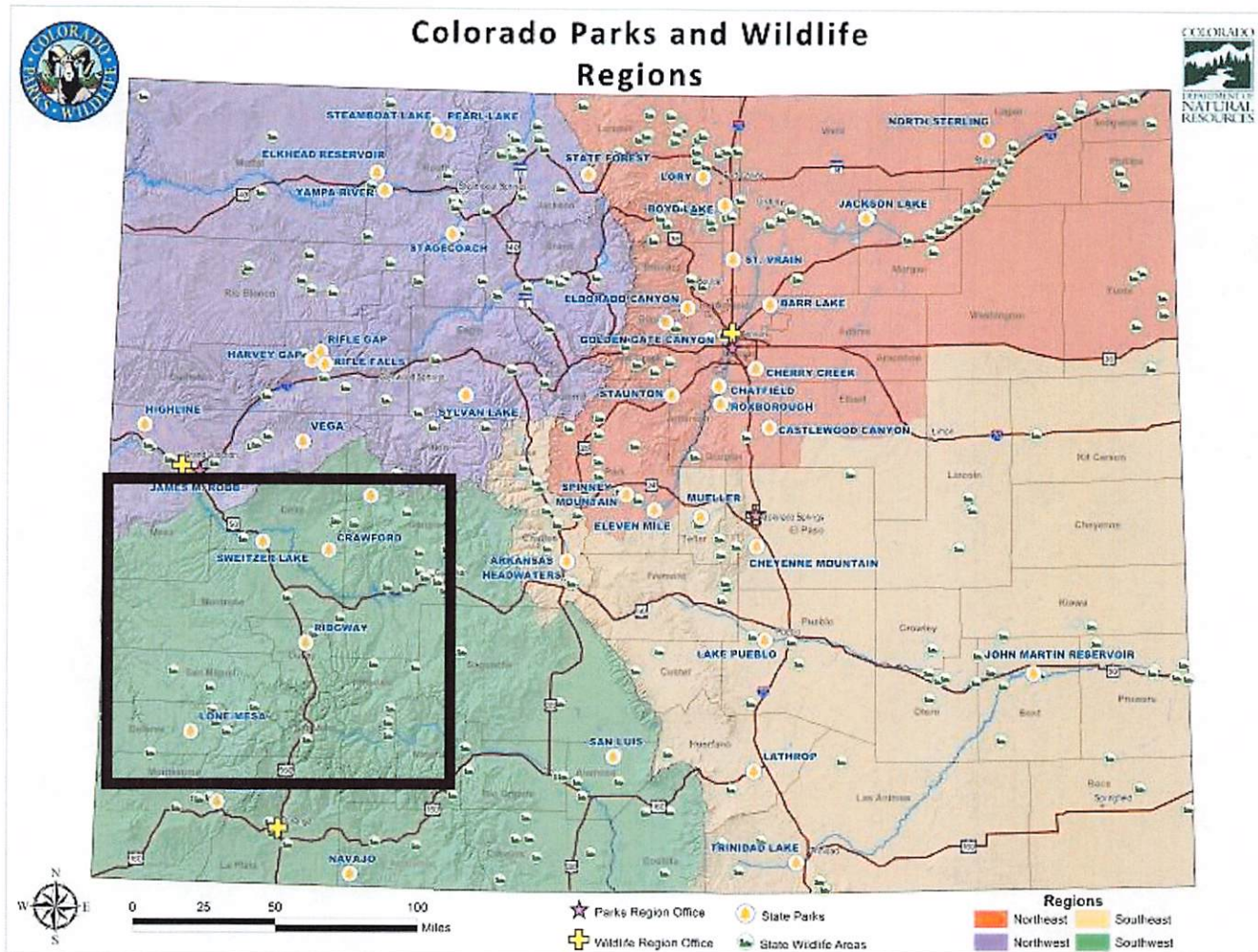


## E-1 Vicinity Map & E-2 Project Site Maps

Maps being requested include:

- “General area” (vicinity) map. (E-1)
- A drill-down of that map that shows the *specific* “project vicinity”. (E-2a)
- Another drill down map showing specific trails and/or work area (highlighted). (E-2b)

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



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

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



(F) Project Illustration

---

Spring Creek Trail Creek Crossing



## **(G) Letters of Project Support**

---

The Ouray Ranger District is proud to add these letters of support to this application:

- **Thunder Mountain Wheelers**
- **Uncompahgre Valley Trail Riders**
- **WESTCORE**
- **BLM-Uncompahgre Field Office**
- **Montrose County**

The support from these entities is paramount for the success of this program and for the success of maintenance on OHV trails in Colorado.



636 North 1<sup>st</sup>.St.  
Montrose, CO 81401  
www.westcore.co



westcore@yahoo.com

To whom it may concern,

My name is Jamie Nance, I'm president of westcore, a 501c3 non-profit based out of Montrose, Colorado with over 1200 members.

The intent of this letter is to show support from our club to an upcoming grant cycle for the 2024 year. Joe Knob with the USFS GMUG office has been an instrumental part of the agency and has done nothing but good for our national forests.

We hope that you can approve his grant request for the 2024 season and to continue the upkeep and maintenance of our local trail systems.

Sincerely,  
Jamie Nance  
Montrose, CO  
970-275-5095  
westcore@yahoo.com  
11/8/23



**UNCOMPAHGRE VALLEY  
TRAIL RIDERS**  
P.O. BOX 3503 | MONTROSE, CO 81402  
*Year Round Fun Club!*



November 14, 2023

Mr. Tom Metsa, OHV Program Manager  
Colorado State Parks and Wildlife Dept.  
13787 South Highway 85  
Littleton, CO. 80125

Re: 2024-2025 OHV Trail Dozer Maintenance Grant from the USFS, Ouray Ranger District

As President of the Uncompahgre Valley Trail Riders (UVTR), representing more than 100 families, it is my pleasure to wholeheartedly support next year's grant request prepared by the USFS, Ouray Ranger District.

The UVTR actively works with the Ouray Ranger District, Joe Knob in particular, in maintaining more than 90 miles of ATV trails to ensure continued safe access for motorized travel on the public lands on the Uncompahgre Plateau and the Stealey Mountain area, as well as BLM lands, which this grant request will cover. Joe Knob's well thought out and very comprehensive scope of work for the Dozer Maintenance Program for 2024, if funded, will ensure maximum utilization of the 50-inch dozers throughout the entire GMUG area of responsibility.

This grant will not only help to protect natural resources, but also provide increased safe motorized access to over 500 miles of trails in the entire GMUG area. Improved access is essential to the USFS in meeting its responsibility to provide multiple use access to the lands under its supervision.

The UVTR is again very pleased to support this USFS, Ouray Ranger District grant request. Our club membership sincerely requests your favorable consideration of it.

Sincerely,

Frank Hollendonner  
President UVTR



**MONTROSE COUNTY**  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
1140 N Grand Ave, Suite 250  
Montrose, CO 81401  
Phone: 970-249-7755  
Fax: 970-249-7761

November 13, 2023

Tom Metsa  
OHV Program Manager  
Colorado Parks & Wildlife  
13787 South Hwy 85  
Littleton, CO 80125

Mr. Metsa:

Please accept this letter on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners in support for the Ouray Ranger District's Trail Dozer Program grant application.

Montrose County is nearly 70% public lands. A substantial portion of those lands are administered by the Ouray Ranger District. The trails system within the District provides our residents and visitors with recreational opportunities that would otherwise be lacking. The trail system also provides necessary access for users of differing physical abilities. An adequately designed and maintained trail system is essential in providing for multiple-use of public lands.

The Ouray Ranger Dozer Maintenance Program has significantly improved the trail system each year and they have developed comprehensive objectives and goals for 2024 that this grant would help fund. The OHV community provides substantial economic benefit to the state and to local economies. The fact that this program is funded by OHV registrations is illustrative of the positive economic impact of OHV activity. In addition to economic benefit, the OHV community is an advocate for responsible stewardship of public lands. The OHV community adds diversity to public lands user groups. Benefits related to OHV use in the Ouray Ranger District rely upon motorized trails which could be improved by receipt of the Trail Dozer Program Grant.

We welcome and support responsible OHV use in Montrose County. We hope that our support on behalf of our constituents will be taken into consideration as you evaluate this round of grant applications.

Sue Hansen  
Chair

Roger Rash  
Vice Chair

Keith Caddy  
Commissioner



Thunder Mountain Wheelers  
P.O. Box 203  
Delta, Colorado 81416  
970-874-8246  
Mike LeMaster - President



Mr. Tom Metsa  
OHV Program Manager  
Colorado Parks & Wildlife  
13787 S Hwy 85  
Littleton, CO 80125

November 10, 2023

Dear Mr. Metsa:

The Thunder Mountain Wheelers, (TMW) enthusiastically supports the Ouray District grant request for the 2025 Ouray Trail Dozer Maintenance Program.

Ongoing trail maintenance is vital to the safety and environmental concerns, for the Ouray Ranger District and TMW. Five different Ranger districts are covered by this dozer program. The Forest Service in cooperation with TMW will continue to have 2 dozers at work this coming year and one as standby with the purchase of a new dozer in 2024. With that comes the need for maintenance and repairs.

Ouray has been able to bring back their dozer operators with the approval of the 18/8 WG 8 program giving them a head start on the spring season with lower country work on the BLM, and finishing up on the BLM in the fall. Joe has diligently worked at bringing on more 13/13 GS 7 positions to fill out a full time crew. With all these positions, people will be ready to start work in the spring with no interruptions.

With the popularity of OHV trail riding on the GMUG National Forest the never ending job of trail maintenance, repair, and reconstruction is an on going thing. As one of our collective partner's with the trail dozer operation, the Ouray District has proven their responsibility to the managing of funds for the most efficient program around. TMW works very close with the Ouray district on trail projects and dozer maintenance issues.

TMW will give support if needed to the Ouray District with equipment and volunteer labor. We have proven that when you bring all the Forest Service trail crew labor, dozer and TMW's equipment and volunteer labor together at the same time, efficiency and complete trail repairs are achieved. Together the program provides the very important consistency in trail maintenance on the entire GMUG. TMW is very lucky to have Joe and his crew to work with.

Sincerely

Mike LeMaster

TMW President and Trail Coordinator.



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Uncompahgre Field Office  
2465 South Townsend Ave  
Montrose, CO 81401

Colorado Parks and Wildlife  
OHV Grants Program  
13787 S. Hwy 85  
Littleton, CO 80125

Dear Off Highway Vehicle Grants Committee:

The Bureau of Land Management, Uncompahgre Field Office (UFO) fully supports the United States Forest Service (USFS) Ouray Ranger District in their efforts to acquire OHV grant funding through Colorado Parks and Wildlife. The Ouray Ranger District and the BLM UFO have and continue to work closely together to benefit motorized trails across public lands on the western slope, especially where are boundaries meet.

These funds will continue to support OHV users by providing the necessary resources to maintain and improve motorized recreation opportunities on public lands. The trail dozer operators are critical for utilizing available dozers on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forest and the UFO for the maintenance and restoration of high use OHV trails. As the UFO looks to expand trail systems in newly designated Special Recreation Management Areas and Extensive Recreation Management Areas, this dozer partnership will continue to be central to our success as the UFO lacks the equipment needed. By maintaining and restoring these routes, the GMUG provides the public with quality recreation opportunities and effective management of the surrounding natural resources across different landscapes and trail systems.

We hope that you will look favorably upon our request. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

SUZANNE  
COPPING

Digitally signed by SUZANNE  
COPPING  
Date: 2023.11.13 09:32:12  
-07'00'

Suzanne Copping  
Field Manager  
Uncompahgre Field Office

## **(H) Trail Crew Work Plan (Good Management or reoccurring crews)**

The Dozer Maintenance Program is a crucial piece to the success of the OHV Program on the Ouray Ranger District. This program has a long history of success on the ground due to the funding by CPW. With the addition of Jim Jackson and Russel Augustus as career-seasonal operators, the Dozer Program is set to produce exceptional results every year. For the year 2024 field season, these are the objectives of the program:

- Work with Thunder Mountain Wheelers and Uncompahgre Valley Trail Riders to identify and resolve trail issues on Adopted trails.
- Start the season by reworking the tread, drainages, and clear the corridor on Picket Corral Trail, 47 Trail, and Bear Pen.
- Move south and maintain Cabin Bench Trail and Cottonwood Trail.
- Work on maintenance in the Cimarrons on Old Owl Creek Trail, Spalding Park Trail, and Stealey Mountain North Trail.
- Maintain the trails on the south end of the Uncompahgre Plateau (Spring Creek, Dented Door, Rim, Dry Creek, Ashely, and Moore Mesa)
- Continue to assist Grand Valley Ranger District and Thunder Mountain Wheelers with project as needed.
- Continue to support and assist Paonia Ranger District, Gunnison Ranger District, Norwood Ranger District, and the BLM Uncompahgre Field Office with their trail dozer needs.
- Work within the Ouray Ranger District with the Range Program to install and repair cattle guards over OHV trails.

The schedule of the dozers is that the trails on the north end of the Uncompahgre Plateau are worked first, April-May. After the snow recedes, one will move off district to support other Colorado OHV trails while the second one works its way south on the Plateau. An area of focus will also be working the trails around the Silver Jack area in the Cimarrons during the hot months of July-August. In August-September, the needs of the rest of the Forest, Paonia, Gunnison, and Norwood will be met. Once it starts snowing in on FS managed lands, the program will shift its attention to BLM managed trails. With this schedule, the program is able to be as efficient as possible.