

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

GM22
NE-M



COLORADO
Parks and Wildlife
Department of Natural Resources

Name of Project: CCRD OHV Crew-2025	Date of Application: 12/2023
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(Please limit the project name to 5 words or less)

Total Project Cost: \$ 187,270.00 <i>(round off to the nearest \$1)</i>	Grant Request: \$ 94,095.00 <i>Amount Requested (round off to the nearest \$1) must match the Project Budget Form.</i>
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PROJECT SPONSOR (Name and Address for entity legally responsible for project)

Organization Name: **Clear Creek Ranger District, Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests And Pawnee National Grasslands**

Mailing Address: **P.O. Box 3307, Idaho Springs, CO 80452**

Telephone: **303-567-3024** Email: **patrick.shaw@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: **Patrick Shaw** Title: **Forestry Technician**

Mailing Address: **Clear Creek Ranger District P.O. Box 3307, Idaho Springs, CO 80452**

Telephone: **303-567-3024** Email: **patrick.shaw@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: **Patrick Shaw** Title: **Forestry Technician**

Mailing Address: **Clear Creek Ranger District P.O. Box 3307, Idaho Springs, CO 80452**

Telephone: **303-567-3024** Email: **patrick.shaw@usda.gov**

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

Name: **Sara Wolf** Title: **Grants and Agreements Specialist**

Mailing Address: **2840 Kachina Drive Pueblo, CO 81008**

Telephone: **970-295-6687** Email: **sara.wolf@usda.gov**

PROJECT LOCATION

Nearest Town or City: **Idaho Springs, CO**

County(ies): **Clear Creek and Gilpin**

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

Township/Range/Section: **T.3 S., R.73 W., Section 35**

State Senate District #: **2** State Representative District #: **13**

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): National Forest

TRAIL SYSTEM INFORMATION (List the number of miles for each type of OHV trail in your area)

Miles of Singletrack: _____ Miles of 50" or less: _____ Miles of Full-sized: **110(open to all)**

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.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trail Maintenance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Travel Plan Implementation
<input type="checkbox"/> *New Trail Construction miles / ft. _____ (Approved through Travel Mgt Decision)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource Protection & Improvement
<input type="checkbox"/> *Major Re-Route miles / ft. closed _____ (that will require new or additional environmental approvals) miles / ft. added _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Signs
	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Corps
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restoration/Rehabilitation (existing corridor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visitor Contacts & Law Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> Capital Equipment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Land Acquisition or Other

* **New Trail Construction & Major Re-Route:** Trail location(s) must be indicated on project map and detailed description of trail work plans must be provided in Project Selection Criteria, Section D-1, #3 Resource Protection, Enhancement & Restoration

TRAIL ACTIVITIES SUMMARY (Based on your project description and budget, provide the percentage for each of the categories listed below.)

% of Budget	Program maintenance (e.g., erosion controls, water bars and culverts, trail clearing and brushing, trail hardening and trail tread repairs, bridge construction and repairs, trailhead improvements and maintenance, crew wages, etc.)
35	
35	Enforcement, Education & Visitor Contacts (e.g., patrols, enforcement, education and visitor contacts, wages, safety contacts, equipment, etc.)
20	Planning & Travel Plan Implementation (e.g., planning, engineering, maps, inventorying, travel management signs & installation, decommission non-system routes, rehabilitation, new construction, wages, monitoring, etc.)
10	Equipment /Materials/ Signs/ Youth Corps/Miscellaneous (e.g., equipment maintenance and repair, personnel training, certification in the use of specialized equipment, program coordination, etc.)
100	Total: (Note: Percentages should add to 100 %)

SCOPE OF WORK – Project Description:	
Project Name: CCRD OHV Crew-2025	Project No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Project Sponsor: Clear Creek Ranger District	Application Year: 2024-2025
Project Contact: Patrick Shaw	Application No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Total Project Cost: \$187,270.00	Grant Request: \$94,095.00

Project Description:

The project work will be performed in those portions of Clear Creek Ranger District (CCRD) of the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland (ARP) that are located within the counties of Clear Creek and Gilpin. We are the closest National Forest and Motorized Recreation area to the western suburbs of the Denver Metro Area, located approximately 25 miles west of the Denver metropolitan area.

The Clear Creek Ranger District (CCRD) of the Arapaho/Roosevelt National Forests is seeking funding for the continuation of a two-person OHV crew for a 130-day season and requests funding for an additional GS-5 temporary hire. The crew will consist of 2 Permanent Seasonal Employees (13/13 PSE) including a GS-6 & GS-5 for a 130-day season, and a Seasonal GS-5 (temporary employee) for a 130-day season. The crew is assigned to basic route maintenance, education, compliance, and outreach patrols on our popular OHV routes. In addition, CCRD is known for old mining routes/roads that wind through National Forest lands locally known as Kingston Peak/Yankee Hill, Bill Moore/Mill Creek, Leavenworth/Waldorf/Argentine, Devils Canyon/Barbour Fork, Pickle Gulch, and Saxon Mountain areas. **Refer to E-2 Project Map**

CCRD is a popular destination for OHV enthusiasts, offering approximately 110 miles of unique and challenging OHV routes ranging in elevation from 7,500 feet to over 13,000 feet. As Colorado's population continues to grow, the numbers of OHV users continue to increase in the Front Range demonstrating the need to promote, enhance, educate, and sustain OHV opportunities on the nearby Clear Creek Ranger District.

2025 will be the tenth year (season) for the CCRD OHV crew. The crew objectives include completing basic route maintenance including tree clearing and corridor improvements, cleaning drainages, water bars and installing signs on approximately 110 miles of the popular routes mentioned above. The crew will also provide information/education programs in coordination with Stay the Trail at Columbine Campground and other popular areas.

The OHV crew will focus weekend work on public contacts, information, education, and compliance to Forest Service Regulations including required OHV registrations. In addition, the crew helps provide oversight and coordination to the Adopt-a-Road Volunteer program. Volunteers provide hundreds of hours assisting with maintenance and upkeep of adopted areas to provide a more enjoyable OHV riding experience and to help ensure routes remain open for all users.

We are requesting continuation of the Good Management Trail Crew Program, while requesting an additional GS-5 temporary employee.

Budget Form

Project Name: CCRD OHV Crew 2025

Date Project will be Completed: Nov. 30, 2025

Project Sponsor: Clear Creek 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)	\$94,095.00		\$ 94,095.00
GS-9 admin & GS-7 Supervisor time	\$ -	\$ 37,800	\$ 37,800.00
(2) USFS vehicles FOR & gas/mileage	\$ -	\$ 5,775	\$ 5,775.00
Volunteer in-kind time 1500 hrs x 31.80	\$ -	\$ 47,700	\$ 47,700.00
Signs, Posts, Hardware, Cell Phone, Radio, Trail Counter	\$ -	\$ 1,900	\$ 1,900.00
USE OF GRANT FUNDING	TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT		\$ 187,270.00

List uses of grant funding (only) below

I. Personnel Costs

Identify as: Salary/wage, benefits, travel, training, outfitting costs, personal protection equipment, etc.

Employee Name or Title/Grade	\$ Per Hr	Quantity	Total Cost
GS-6 Forestry Tech Crew Leader, 130 days @ \$210/Day	\$ 26.25		\$ 27,300.00
Training, Overtime, Sunday Differential, Lump Sum, Uniform	\$ -		\$ 2,625.00
GS-5 Forestry Tech Crew Member 130 days @ \$187	\$ 23.37		\$ 24,310.00
Training, Overtime, Sunday Differential, Lump Sum, Uniform	\$ -		\$ 2,625.00
GS-5 Forestry Tech Crew Member 130 days @ \$187	\$ 23.37		\$ 24,310.00
Training, Overtime, Sunday Differential, Lump Sum, Uniform	\$ -		\$ 2,625.00
<small>For CPW use only. Approximate number of workhours</small>	3,192.19	Category Total	\$ 83,795.00

II. Project Materials/Supplies

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

	Price Per	Quantity	Total
Supplies, gloves, goggles, replacement of worn items	\$ -		\$ 1,100.00
Signs, posts, hardware, fencing	\$ -		\$ 3,500.00
Misc. tools, ie. drills, batteries, handsaws	\$ -		\$ 1,100.00
Printing Map/Guide, education materials	\$ -		\$ 600.00
	\$ -		\$ -
		Category Total	\$ 6,300.00

III. Equipment

Identify as: Trail Dozers, ATV/UTV, motorcycle, chainsaws, winches, field equipment rentals, equipment fuel, repairs, and operations, etc.

ATV/UTV maintenance & repairs	\$ -		\$ 2,500.00
Chainsaw fuel/oil, chain, file, wedges	\$ -		\$ 500.00
		Category Total	\$ 3,000.00

III.A. FLEET Equipment

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

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

IV. Contracted Services

Identify as: Youth Corps, NEPA, planning, engineering, construction contractor/subcontractor costs

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

V. Volunteer Support

Identify as: For Volunteers Only Safety education, safety gear (gloves/goggles), outfitting, per diem (meals or mileage when travel required by and identified in project scope of work), non-monetary awards or recognition.

Safety gear, supplies, and non-monetary awards	\$ -		\$ 1,000.00
	\$ -		\$ -
		Category Total	\$ 1,000.00

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

Total	\$ 94,095.00
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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

CCRD OHV Crew

Project
Sponsor

Clear Creek Ranger District

As the official responsible for management of the land on which the project will be accomplished, I agree to the following:

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

**1997 Revision of the Land and Resource Management Plan
for the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee
National Grassland**

Date: **Record of
Decision –
11/19/1997**

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

Date and title of document:

N/A

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.]

N/A

N/A

N/A

For more information contact: **Ashley Philbeck, Environmental Coordinator**

Phone: 303-567-3006; **Email:** ashley.philbeck@usda.gov

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

Nicole Malandri, District Ranger

Print or type Land Manager's Name and Title

NICOLE MALANDRI
Digitally signed by
NICOLE MALANDRI
Date: 2023.11.29
14:53:34 -07'00'

11/29/2023

Land Manager Signature and Title

Date

NON-FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION and LAND MANAGER APPROVAL

The Applicant is responsible for filling out this TOP portion of this page ending at "Applicant Environmental Checklist". The applicant is also responsible for securing all necessary permits, licenses, clearances, and environmental analyses documentation necessary to comply with local, state, and/or federal laws.

Project Name _____ **N/A** _____ Project Sponsor _____

The project described in this application has my approval.

Owners or Authorized Person's Signature and Title _____ **Date** _____

Print or type Owner's or Authorized Person's Name and Title

APPLICANT ENVIRONMENTAL CHECK LIST

Describe the process (es) or efforts you have made to review potential wildlife and environmental impacts of your project as concisely and specifically as possible. Include any relevant information in each of the category questions listed below and indicate which question you are answering. Examples are given of the types of information that may be valuable. If a question is not applicable to this project, please write "N/A" and state your reasoning.

1. **Species of Concern:** Is it likely that plant and/or wildlife species of concern are present on the proposed project site?
 - Federally listed, threatened, and/or endangered species
 -
 - Species that are rare or have limited range in Colorado
 -
2. **Habitats and their Values:** What habitats are present and how important, productive, or pristine is the wildlife habitat in the project area?
 - Describe habitats that are present and others that are adjacent to them
 - Existing development or human impacts to the proposed project area?
 - Critical habitat for a particular species, or an area with high value for nesting, feeding, or calving
3. **Potential Impacts:** List, in bulleted form, the proposed project activities. Then, describe how the project activities will, or potentially may, impact vegetation and/or wildlife. Include both short-term (during project activities) and long-term (impacts to habitats) effects.
 - Disturbance of sensitive species
 - Impacts to species during rest, feeding, or reproductive cycles
 - Encroachment, loss or reduction of habitat(s)
 - Intrusion into areas with little existing human impacts

Continued next page . . .

4. Mitigation: How will these impacts be addressed?

- Alternative design or trail route selection
- Timing of project activities
- Screening or users from wildlife area, protection of critical habitat, channeling use through less sensitive areas
- Improvement (i.e., restoration) to habitat areas upon project completion

5. Benefits: List habitat improvements such as restoration of wetlands, river corridors, and trail areas; restriction of recreationalists from sensitive areas; environmental or recreation education efforts.

- Education of users through environmental education programs, opportunities for “watchable wildlife,” and monitoring of wildlife impacts
- Reroute trails away from sensitive habitats

6. Environmental Compliance: Describe regulatory compliance, applicable permits and/or agency concurrence procedures that are, or are not required, and why.

- Migratory Bird Treaty Act (i.e., nesting habitats will not be impacted by the project due to the project’s timing or, surveys for nesting birds will be conducted prior to activities and, activities that may impact active nests will be postponed)
- Concurrence from USFWS for effects determinations (or rationale for why no such concurrence is required)
- US Army Corps of Engineers 404 permits
- Compliance with raptor guidelines recommended by Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Principle source of information: (e.g., Colorado Parks & Wildlife, Colorado Natural Heritage Program, local agency, staff biologist, consultant)

Printed name, title and telephone number of person consulted:

Signature of person consulted:

PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA

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

The OHV crew will complete basic route maintenance work while making public contacts to provide information and OHV related education. The following riding areas are the main focus of the crew; Kingston Peak/Yankee Hill, Bill Moore Lake/Mill Creek, Argentine/Waldorf, Saxon Mountain, Devils Canyon/Barbour Fork, Democrat Mountain, Jones Pass, and Pickle Gulch. These areas contain approximately 110 miles of routes open to all vehicles. These riding areas directly benefit the local economies of Idaho Springs, Georgetown, Empire, Central City, and Blackhawk. **Refer to E-2 Project Map.**

In addition to our standard request for two staff members (GS6, GS5 13/13) we are requesting an additional GS-05 temporary employee. The additional employee will not only help with coverage of our routes, or allowing for more weekly coverage, but it will help grow our program, add a Forest Protection officer, and allow for more public outreach. With the continuation of our good management status, it is imperative to maintain the growth and momentum of our program to keep up with the ever-increasing numbers of OHV users. This will not affect our usage of machines (ATV/UTV, fleet vehicles) as we already have the capacity to fill this request. Having a larger crew will allow for more coverage when training is taking place, with volunteer groups, when crew members are out sick, and allows for a better presence with public compliance and outreach.

Basic route maintenance on CCRD includes: route markers and road numbers consistent with Motor Vehicle Use Maps, corridor clearing to improve visibility and safety, drainage improvement/clearing to create a more sustainable route system, rehabilitating overly impacted areas, and defining routes while protecting sensitive areas with fence construction. The crew is also critical for establishing and maintaining positive message boards, alerts, and notices (ie.Fire Restrictions) of deteriorating or unsafe conditions, in addition to updating the public on current or expected riding conditions.

The CCRD OHV crew is integral in the identification, planning and implementation of restoration and resource protection projects. Illegal use, weather events and normal wear and tear on routes bring about needs for additional resources and personnel to maintain a sustainable and enjoyable riding experience. Without the eyes and ears of the CCRD OHV Crew, many of these "problems" go unseen or unreported and become a larger or potentially dangerous situation which could result in reduced riding opportunities.

In addition to basic maintenance and resource protection, the OHV crew contacts hundreds of OHV and 4x4 enthusiasts and is the first contact to many public land visitors. This allows the crew to provide critical information/education on the "Stay the Trail" program, TREAD Lightly, rules and regulations, while distributing CCRD's Motor Vehicle Use Map and informs riders about CO-TREX and Avenza.

Without these public contacts, hundreds of riders go unchecked and uninformed about how their OHV registration money is used and many would continue without registration. The crew takes a hard line with compliance regarding OHV registration while informing users of the value and importance of the State OHV registration program. The crew focuses on compliance and many times 'sells' registrations in the field, thanks to increased cellular coverage. Field presence is critical for promotion of the OHV program and to educate/inform the public to allow for a safer, sustainable, and more enjoyable riding experience.

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

The Clear Creek Ranger District (CCRD) has partnered with 8 Front Range clubs with adoptions covering nearly all National Forest lands within CCRD including:

Colorado 4x4 Girls (formerly Jeep Girls) - Montane Park, Mad Creek, Democrat Mt., Bard Creek, Arapaho Springs, and Jones Pass

Mile Hi Jeep Club - Spring Creek/Silver City, Bill Moore Lake, Mill Creek, and Red Elephant Hill

Rising Sun 4x4 Club - Leavenworth/Waldorf/Argentine Pass and Kingston Peak

Front Range 4x4 - Barbour Fork and Devils Canyon

Colorado FJ Cruisers - Pickle Gulch

Colorado 4x4 Rescue and Recovery – Yankee Hill

North American XJ Association - Saxon Mt. and Cascade Creek

Colorado Side x Side - Columbine OHV Parking Area and Yankee Hill (FSR 772.1)

These groups regularly contribute over 1500 hours of volunteer time annually to help maintain their adopted areas and assist with planning/identifying future projects. CCRD is committed to our volunteer program as they provide invaluable presence on public land, model and promote appropriate riding behavior and provide education and information messages to all who use public lands.

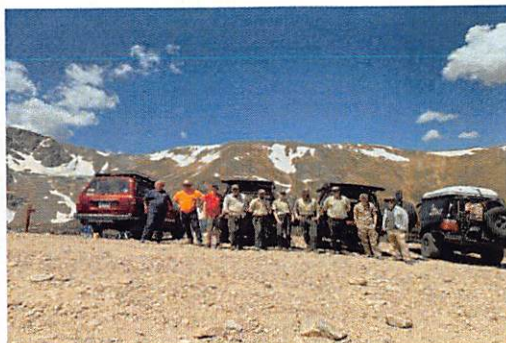
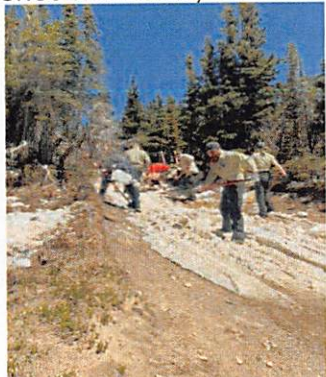
The CCRD OHV crew provides critical oversight, safety briefings and project planning for Adopt-a-Road Volunteer groups. Volunteer projects include trash removal, fence construction, route signing, monitoring, maintenance, and rehabilitation of impacted areas. The heavily used adopted areas currently suffer from illegal routes, vandalism, and resource damage.

The OHV crew also will continue to partner with Stay the Trail staff for Education and Outreach programs at various locations throughout CCRD. Stay the Trail staff have also partnered with the OHV Crew and CCRD staff to assist with restoration of several heavily impacted areas and assisted with project coordination and oversight.

There is a large amount of local and community support for OHV presence/education and maintenance of routes. There is no controversy associated with this project. **Please refer to the enclosed letters of support.**

Leverage

Clear Creek Ranger District (CCRD) will continue to contribute approximately \$40,000.00 towards the project by providing supervision of the crew from a GS-7 Forestry Technician, grant administration by a GS-9 Recreation Planner, signposts, stickers, and hand tools in addition to providing two U.S. Forest Service vehicles for the crew to use. CCRD will also install the "Colorado Registration Dollars at Work" logo on sign boards within the patrol areas. Volunteers from various adopt-a-road clubs and others will continue to contribute their time for in-kind volunteer services (approx.\$40,000.00), in addition to using their own 4x4 vehicles and gasoline to help haul signs, fence materials, and trash.



Sources of Fund breakdown for # 2 Partnerships, Support and Leverage 2024-2025

Sources of Funds	Grant Request	Cash Match	In-Kind Match	Totals
CPW grant	\$ 94,095.00			\$ 94,095.00
Various 4x4 groups			1500 hours valued @ \$31.80/hr. \$47,700.00	
Volunteer in-kind total			\$47,700.00	\$47,700.00
CCRD				
GS-7, GS-9 \$398/day Crew Supervision/Admin 95 days			\$37,800.00	
(2) USFS vehicles FOR & gas/mileage			\$5,775.00	
Signs/materials/hardware/tools Two-Way radios, cell phone			\$1,900.00	
CCRD in-kind			\$45,475.00	\$45,475.00
Project Totals			\$93,175.00	\$187,270.00

Use of Grant funding per categories on budget spreadsheet

Personnel Costs – \$83,795.00

Grant funding would be used for crew salary, uniforms, and training/recertification. Three seasonal Forestry Technicians at GS-6, GS-5, & GS-5 level for a 120-day summer season from approximately mid- May to mid-November.

Project Material and Supplies – \$6,300.00

Grant funding would be used for personal protective equipment and supplies such as gloves, hardhats, helmets, goggles, etc. Signs including Directional, travel management, and education/information. Buck and Rail Fence Materials, Tools, hardware, supplies, drills, batteries, and hand saws. Education Materials such as Smokey Bear, STT, Tread Lightly, NOHVCC.

Volunteer Support – \$1,000.00

Provide volunteers with personal protective equipment, gloves and hardhats when working on installing signs, fence construction/repair, trash removal etc. We would also like provide non-monetary awards for recognition of volunteer efforts.

Equipment – \$3,000.00

ATV/UTV/Trailer/Saw fuel, maintenance, and repair. Crew Tablet and Phone Service, Chainsaw parts and accessories.

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

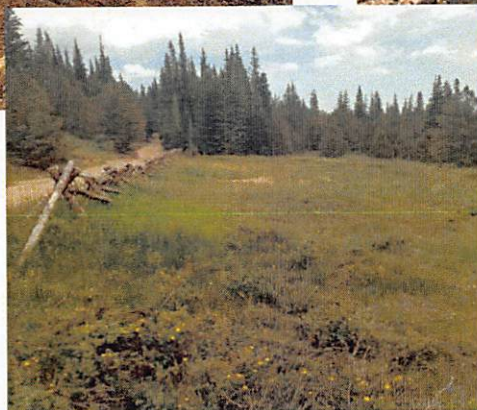
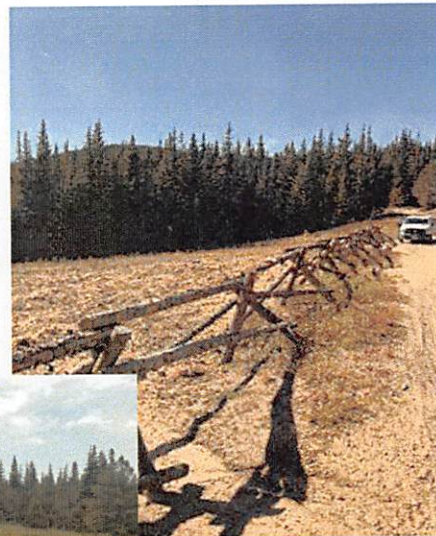
(25 points):

Main objectives of this project are to continue to provide a dedicated OHV crew for visitor education, information, compliance, and enforcement while enhancing riding opportunities through basic route maintenance.

Heavy recreational use combined with lack of route maintenance and inadequate drainage, over time, has caused a proliferation of user created routes, erosion, and sedimentation problems in many areas around the district. These issues will be a focus of overall light/basic maintenance however, the crew will also report any problems that are beyond the scope of their capabilities to assure issues don't go unchecked. The OHV Crew will coordinate and work closely with the District Engineer, Hydrologist, Biologists, and other specialists to plan and restore impacted areas.

The OHV Crew's work on restoration of heavily impacted areas will promote long term protection of sensitive resource areas and promote responsible use by all. Poor road conditions and lack of management encourages some users to take alternative, illegal routes which in turn worsens impacts to legal, legitimate routes in addition to portraying a negative public image of OHV users. This project will provide education, enforcement, and maintenance to help keep users on designated routes and help improve public perception of motorized recreation and therefor will have many positive aspects to users, resources, wildlife, and water quality.

The crew will also continue working with partners/volunteers building buck and pole fence, restoring damaged areas, and maintaining signs to protect sensitive areas. In addition, volunteer groups assist with trash removal to reduce contamination and encourage responsible use.



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

Travel Management

The main objective of the CCRD OHV Crew is to establish and maintain a sustainable route system for all OHV users. Yearly OHV grant funding will help us reach our goal of regular field presence, maintenance, monitoring, and volunteer/partnership projects. This funding will help us provide long term sustainability to OHV routes and maintain future access to public lands.

Clear Creek Ranger District personnel and the OHV crew have worked on travel management signing for years, but many of these signs are vandalized or deteriorate and regularly must be replaced to be consistent with the Travel Management Rule and the Motor Vehicle Use Map. Funding the OHV Crew allows for a dedicated team to regularly maintain signs. This project will help CCRD maintain consistency with management plans while providing positive reassuring signage to promote a more responsible and enjoyable experience.

Education

The CCRD OHV Crew's highest priority beyond route maintenance is field presence and public contact. This is not only to inform and educate the users about responsible riding but also answer any questions and give assistance. In the field, the crew shows riders, first-hand, how to use applications like **Avenza** and **Co-Trex** to enhance the riders experience with route finding while giving recommendations on where to go based on rider experience and interests. CCRD and the OHV crew have also partnered with the Stay the Trail (STT) team for Education and Outreach events in the Columbine Campground OHV area. This area is heavily used by OHV enthusiasts, especially on weekends and is a great opportunity to engage youth and hand out education materials such as Tread Lightly, Smokey Bear, Woodsy Owl and Stay the Trail.

Field presence and public contacts also allow the crew the opportunity to explain the benefits of the registration program and check for current registrations. The public is often unaware how their money is spent, however, once explained they are always supportive and understanding. Public support goes a long way to further the overall OHV program.

The crew will continue to install informational and regulatory signs to inform and remind users to Stay the Trail. Informational sign boards also show active management of areas and in some cases show up to date information or regulation changes, such as fire restrictions.

The OHV crew educates users to become safer, more responsible riders and better stewards of the land.

Enforcement

OHV crew members are required to be certified Forest Protection Officers (FPO's). FPO certification allows crew members to issue Citations and Warning Notices and complete Incident Reports for Law Enforcement follow up. FPO training is also critical to learn about 'watch out' situations regarding criminal activity and behavior.

The OHV Crew contacts thousands of Forest Visitors including, OHV riders, 4x4'ers, recreational sport shooters, hikers, mountain bikers and campers. From these contacts, the crew writes incident reports for various violations such as damaged signs, trash, resource damage, creating illegal routes, and failure to display OHV registrations.

Checking OHV registrations is a great way to 'break the ice' with the public and results in hundreds of opportunities to relay information, regulations, and answer questions. This also allows the crew the opportunity to explain the value of the registration or write violations to those riders who are not current. Emphasis of the crew has been to give warnings and/or attempt to register machines in the field rather than give violation notices. Many of the verbal warnings resulted in proof of registration after initial contact by email or text follow up. With increased cell phone capabilities riders can more easily register their machines on the spot rather than receive a violation or lose the opportunity to ride that day.

While enforcement is not the focal point of the crew, it is important to show that failure to follow the rules is regulated and reported. Regular patrols and field presence, with personal visitor contacts, greatly improves compliance. Consistent and dedicated field presence results in a more enjoyable and safer recreation experience for everyone.



D-2

Land Acquisition Grant – Supplemental Criteria

An Off-Highway Vehicle Grant Application requires supplemental information for land acquisitions, land leases, or easement purchase proposals.

A plan is required to be eligible for funding from the State Trails Program. Applicants are encouraged to apply for a Planning Grant from the Recreational Trail Program or the Off-Highway Vehicle Program *before* submitting a land acquisition proposal.

Land Acquisition Grant Applications require a presentation to the State Trails Committee.

If you have any questions on the requirements, please contact State Trails' staff *prior to* submitting your application.

Please respond to each section, being sure to identify which question you are answering. Use your own paper with *one-page per section or up to four pages total*. Please respond in 12-pitch font. Evaluating a project without the following information is difficult, so failure to respond to sections may reduce a project's score.

Eligibility Criteria and Acquisition Costs Acceptable for Reimbursement

- Only costs to acquire land, land leases or easements
- The purchase must be a fair market valuation
- Appraisals and legal fees
- An environmental review of the subject property
- Land surveys
- Transaction costs
- Property interest must be secured and controlled for a minimum of 25 years

Ineligibility Criteria and Acquisition Costs Unacceptable for Reimbursement

- Site development
- Acquisitions that involve condemnation
- Insurance (except Title Insurance)
- Any work that is not directly relevant to trail development or acquisition
- Facilities that are ornamental and/or do not have a direct benefit to trail users
- Any applicant that is not in compliance with the terms and/or conditions of a prior and/or **existing** grant from the State Trails Program

An Off-Highway Vehicle Grant Application requires supplemental information for land acquisitions, land leases, or easement purchase proposals.

I. Site Description

- A. Describe the site and surrounding area. What currently exists on the property? Include a site map that shows property boundaries, utilities, roads and structures. If larger than 8.5" x 11", maps must be folded into that size.

II. Planning

- A. Explain the *project* planning process surrounding the proposed acquisition. List all the steps required by rule or law of the governing agency for project approval. List the steps that have been completed.
- B. List local, state, and/or federal permits required for the project and list those requirements that have been fulfilled.
- C. Describe how the *project* is compatible to the requested acquisition.
- D. Is this project part of any local, regional, state or federal plans? List the goals and objectives of this project and how it ties these plans.

III. Public Notice

- A. Has the public been notified and invited to participate in the planning of the *project*? What type of public notice is required by rule or law to inform the public about a project?

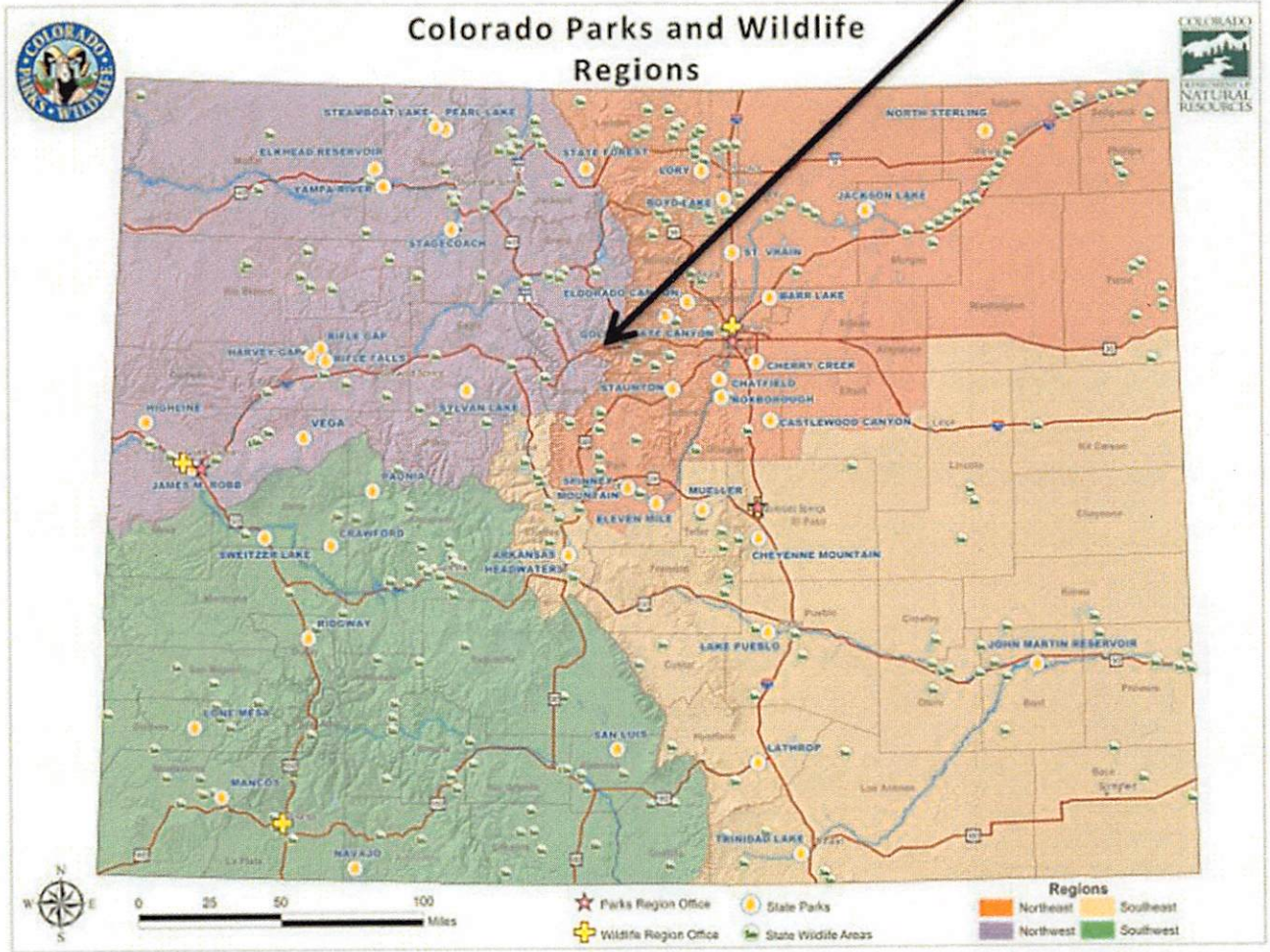
IV. Public Involvement

- A. *Projects* may not be planned in isolation. The general public, adjacent landowners, and other interested parties should be involved from the outset. Describe the public involvement process used in the planning of this project and the results of any input.
- B. Summarize the most important comments received and your response to those comments.
- C. Describe any changes to your project design or scope of work based on public input.

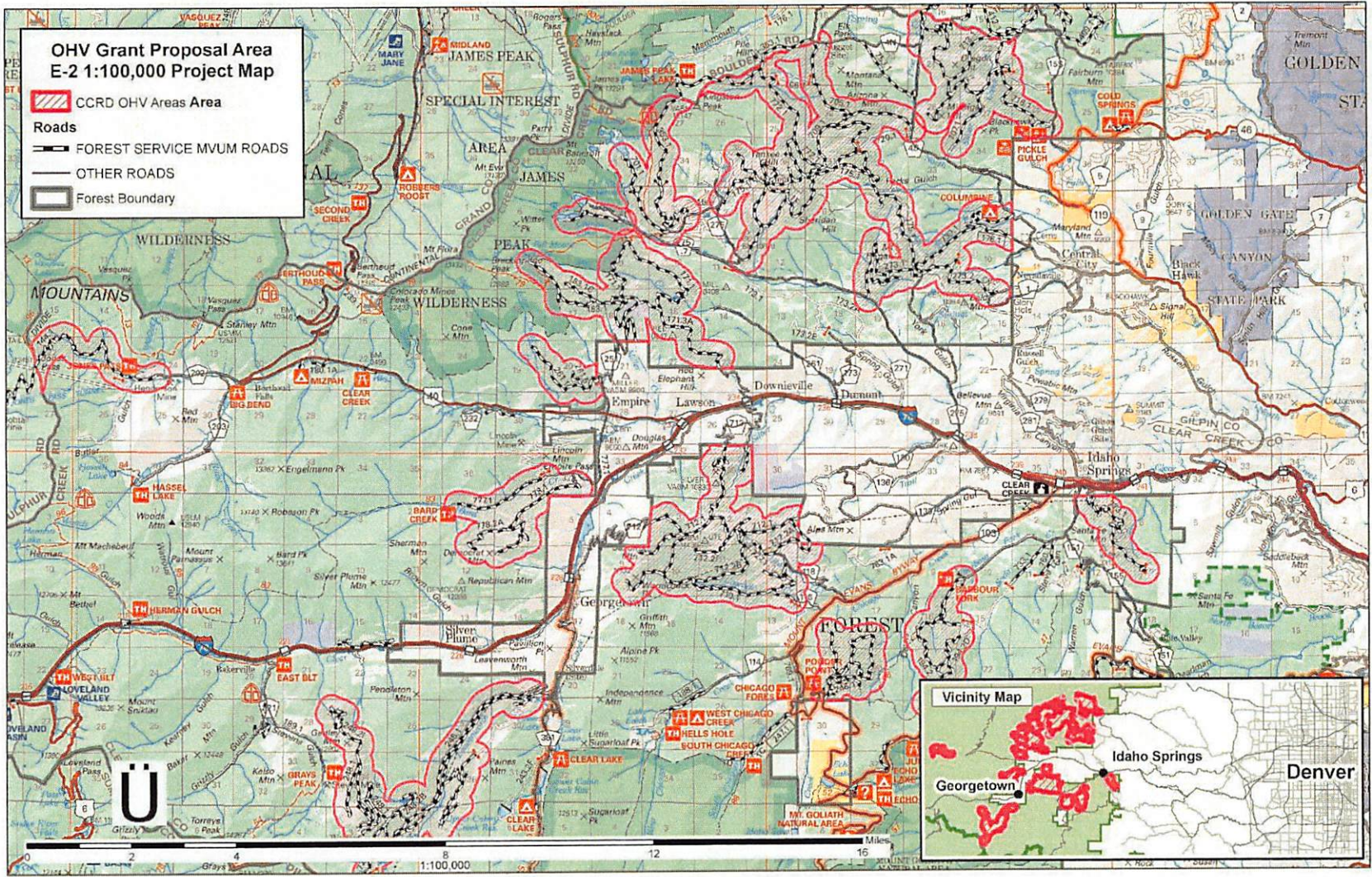
E-1 Vicinity Map & E-2 Project Site Maps

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

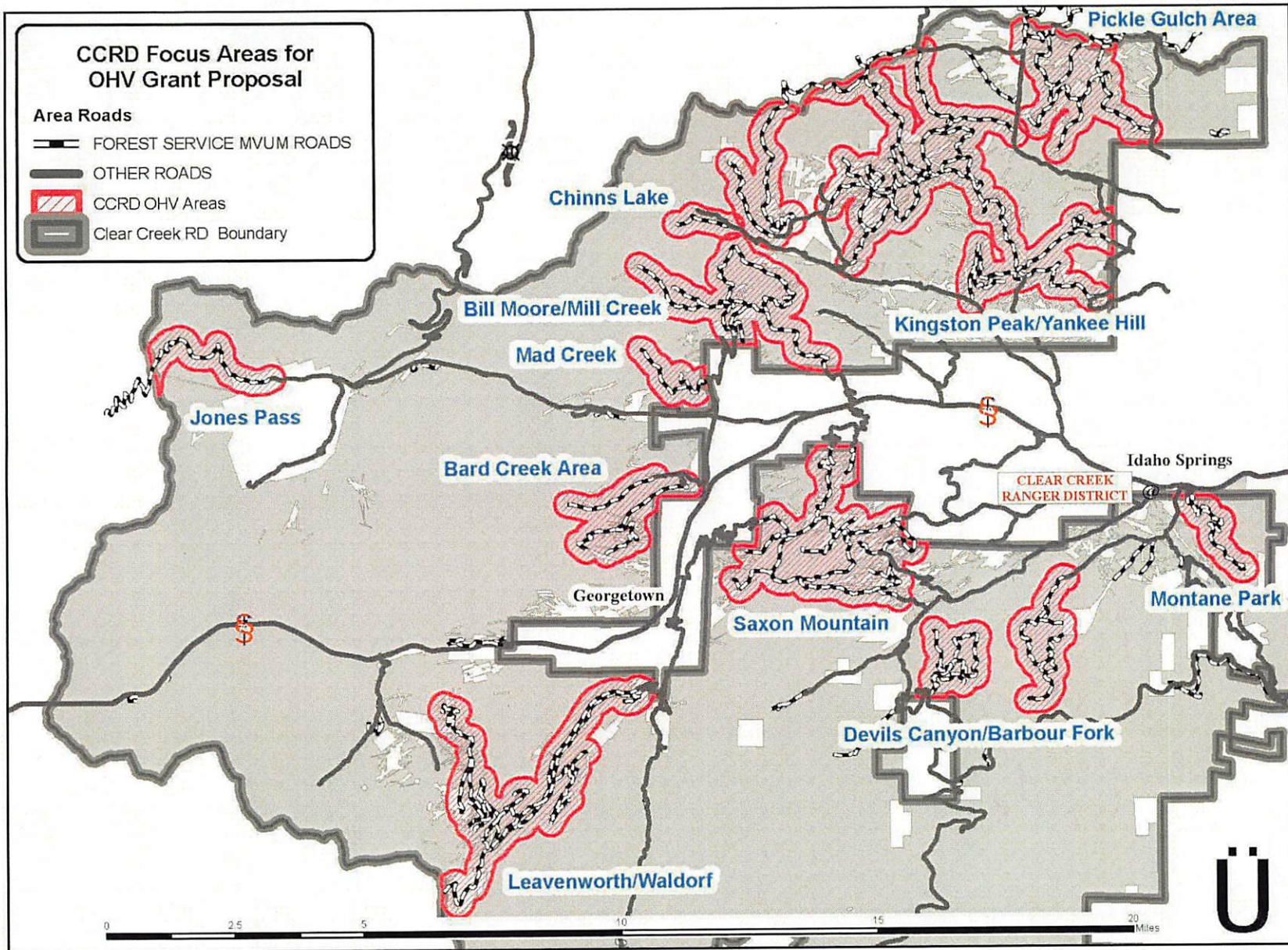
Project Area



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)



E-2 Project Map (continued):



(G) Letters of Project Support

Nate Pittock
Colorado Side x Side Adopt-a-trail coordinator
4757 S. Coors Lane
Morrison, CO 80465
Ph: 303-915-9595
npittock@comcast.net

November 15th, 2023

OHV Grant Selection Subcommittee
Colorado State Parks OHV Program
13787 South Highway 85
Littleton, CO 80125

Re: Clear Creek Ranger District Off-Highway Vehicle Crew Grant Proposal

Dear OHV Sub-Committee Members,

I am writing this letter in support of the Clear Creek Ranger District's request for funding for the continuation of a 2-person OHV crew for route maintenance and patrolling across the district. I am the adopt-a-trail coordinator for the Colorado Side x Side group, and we work with the USFS Clear Creek Ranger District's OHV staff members on maintaining trails within the Yankee Hill OHV riding area. In addition to our direct adopt-a-trail efforts, many of our group use and enjoy the many other OHV trails and roads in the district, and greatly appreciate the work the OHV program and other adopt-a-trail maintaining clubs do in the area. The Colorado Side x Side group is the largest SxS dedicated group on Facebook for the state of Colorado with over 11,000 members and growing. In addition, we are the first SxS group in Colorado to adopt a trail with the USFS and the Stay the Trail organization.

The efforts of both the OHV program and adopt-a-trail clubs to clean trash, maintain trails, mark routes clearly along with signage for usage restrictions, not only improves the user experience, but also helps prevent misuse and damage to resources. As the Clear Creek Ranger District is often the closest public lands for many users in the Denver metro areas, we understand the ever increasing challenges with maintenance, patrolling, resource concerns and user education. The continued funding from the OHV Grant program will allow the district to continue with basic route maintenance, patrolling, user information and education and their adopt-a-road program with the local clubs.

During the 2023 field season, our group partnered with the Clear Creek Ranger District on several volunteer days where we cleaned up trash, installed new signs and trail makers, identified areas for improvements, and educated OHV riders on trail etiquette and proper hand signals. We look forward to continuing our partnership working with the District and OHV program to provide sustainable motorized access and recreational opportunities to all users.

Best regards,



Nate Pittock
Colorado Side x Side Adopt-a-trail coordinator



November 20, 2023

COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE

MR. TOM METSA: OHV PROGRAM MANAGER 13787 S HWY 85 |
LITTLETON, CO 80125

THIS LETTER IS OUR ENDORSEMENT FOR THE CLEAR CREEK RANGER DISTRICT (CCRD) GRANT TO FUND EQUIPMENT AND A TRAIL CREW THAT WILL HELP WITH EDUCATION AND ENFORCEMENT IN THE CLEAR CREEK RANGER DISTRICT.

Rising Sun 4 Wheel Drive Club of Colorado is a Toyota 4x4 club located in Colorado with 114 active members. Our club was founded 42 years ago in 1981. We are deeply invested in preserving our public land and keeping motorized access open. Many of our club members are members of Tread Lightly and we preach responsible motorized recreation. We consistently spend 1200+ hours annually on Colorado public land in the form of cleanups, trail runs and general trail patrol. Many of our members are professionals in the motorized recreation industry and depend on it for their livelihood. We have demonstrated our dedication to supporting the Forest Service and public lands by participating in the Adopt-a-Trail program throughout our history. We organize and participate in multiple Trail workdays each year on each trail. On Kingston Peak trail and, on Argentine Pass trail specifically, our Adopt-a-Trails which is in the CCRD, we've restored meadows, maintained historical sites, participated in the reroute and preservation of the trail, and organized yearly volunteer events with the CCRD.

On behalf of our membership, we fully support this grant, which will fund a trail crew that will help with education, enforcement, and project leading in the CCRD. These additional persons will add capacity to the Developed/Dispersed recreation program, and allow more resources for OHV operations and maintenance. We respectfully request the support of the CCRD in this effort.

SINCERELY, THE MEMBERS OF RISING SUN 4 WHEEL DRIVE
CLUB OF COLORADO WWW.RISINGSUN4X4CLUB.ORG

PO Box 260175 | Lakewood, CO 80226-0175

11 November 2023
Trevor Kanous
Adopt-a-Trail Coordinator
Front Range 4x4
8197 W Moraine Dr
Littleton, CO 80128
trevorkanous@gmail.com

OHV Grant Selection Subcommittee
Colorado State Parks OHV Program
13787 South Highway 85
Littleton, CO 80125

Re: Clear Creek Ranger District Off-Highway Vehicle Crew Grant Proposal

Dear OHV Sub-Committee Members,

I am writing this letter in support of the Clear Creek Ranger District's request for funding for the continuation of their OHV crew for route maintenance and patrolling across the district. I am the adopt-a-trail coordinator for Front Range 4x4, and we work with the USFS Clear Creek Ranger District's OHV staff members on two trails local to the area. In addition to our direct adopt-a-trail efforts, many of our club members use and enjoy the many other OHV trails and roads in the district, and greatly appreciate the work the OHV program and other adopt-a-trail maintaining clubs do in the area.

The efforts of both the OHV program and adopt-a-trail clubs to clean trash, maintain trails, mark routes clearly along with signage for usage restrictions, not only improves the user experience, but also helps prevent misuse and damage to resources. As the Clear Creek Ranger District is often the closest public lands for many users in the Denver metro areas, we understand the ever increasing challenges with maintenance, patrolling, resource concerns and user education. The continued funding from the OHV Grant program will allow the district to continue with basic route maintenance, patrolling, user information and education and their adopt-a-road program with the local clubs.

During the 2023 field season, we were able to work with the District in a safe and responsible manner to continue our adopt-a-trail efforts. We look forward to continuing our partnership working with the District and OHV program to provide sustainable motorized access and recreational opportunities to all users.

Sincerely,
Trevor Kanous
Front Range 4x4 Adopt-a-Trail Coordinator





November 12, 2023

OHV Grant Selection Subcommittee
Colorado State Parks OHV Program
13787 South Highway 85
Littleton, CO 80125:

Dear OHV Sub-Committee Members,

Please accept this letter in support for the Clear Creek County Ranger District's grant request for the continued funding of the CCRD OHV Crew. I am the Founder of Colorado 4x4 Girls, a Colorado based 4x4 club which offers the female enthusiast a no-pressure environment to get out on the trails and learn new skills, while being educated on the importance of stewardship, community and trail etiquette.

Colorado 4x4 Girls works closely with the CCRD to keep the area's forest roads maintained and accessible to all recreational users. Colorado 4x4 Girls hosts at least four trail cleanup days where we go out with the OHV crew to clean, educate and maintain roads throughout the area. This summer we managed to log over 720 volunteer hours on our six road adoptions, as well as assisted the OHV crew and other clubs in a number of other efforts around the county, one being trail work conducted during Mile High Jeep Club's All 4 Fun event.

This year, outside of cleaning up A LOT of garbage in our forests, we were able to deconstruct illegal structures, disassemble many fire rings, place signage for designated routes and do a lot of public outreach/education. We held our annual children's trail cleanup, working with children and their families to instill good forest practices in our youngest generation. The CCRD brings Smokey Bear out for this event to teach about fire safety and the importance of being a good steward of our public lands. Kids participate in a trash "scavenger hunt" and help the Forest Service monitor bird boxes located on one of our adoptions. As small as this may seem, the OHV crew is creating a bond between our children and the forests- which is one of the first steps in ensuring our public lands continue to stay taken care of.

For the reasons above, and for so many that aren't listed, the CCRD OHV crew is an integral part of our 4x4 community, as well as recreational education and opportunities as a whole. They are the feet on the ground in our forests, often the first point of contact for all recreational users, and the importance of that is huge. Please continue your support and funding for this amazing and incredibly useful program.

Thank you for your time.

Catherine Fanaro
Founder
Colorado 4x4 Girls
www.colorado4x4girls.com
coloradojeepgirls@gmail.com



Clear Creek County

POST OFFICE BOX 2000
GEORGETOWN, COLORADO 80444

TELEPHONE: (303) 569-3251 • (303) 679-2000

November 21, 2023

Reference: Arapaho National Forest, Clear Creek Ranger District, OHV Grant Application 2024-2025

Dear Mr. Metsa:

We are writing this letter in support of the Clear Creek Ranger District's request for funding for the continuation OHV route maintenance and expansion from a 2-person to a 3-person OHV crew for route maintenance and patrolling across the district.

Clear Creek County is located only a half hour drive up 1-70 from the western suburbs. The Clear Creek Ranger District is extremely popular for motorized use and its popularity has only increased since COVID-19 added to the increase in people's interest in outdoor recreation especially in the district. With this increase in use, however, the Forest Service had not had the ability to keep up with maintenance and address resource concerns and user education. The ongoing funding from the OHV Grant program will allow the district to continue critical work like basic route maintenance, patrolling, user education and their adopt-a-road program with the local clubs.

2023 season accomplishments in Clear Creek County included, basic route maintenance, public outreach and education, trash removal, sign installation and monitoring of conditions and users. In addition, the OHV crew worked with various adopt-a-road club organizations to increase project work, increased volunteer hours thus contributing to closing off illegal routes and maintaining fencing of sensitive areas and field presence.

We value our partnership and with the District and the Clear Creek County Off Highway Vehicle Task Force and will continue to work to address issues with the continuing increase of motorized use in Clear Creek County to improve routes through maintenance and signing, to provide sustainable riding opportunities, and to provide effective, accurate information/education to users.

We fully support proper management of motorized use across the district. It is our desire to see the area managed appropriately and funded to allow for open and sustainable access for all.

Sincerely,

CLEAR CREEK BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Randall Wheelock, Chairman



Sean Wood, Commissioner



George Marlin, Commissioner

"Honoring Our Past, While Designing Our Future"

(H) Trail Crew Work Plan

Provide a trail Crew plan for the **2024 work season**

Clear Creek Ranger District OHV Trail Crew 2024 Work Plan

The Clear Creek OHV Trail Crew will work within Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties, operating out of our Ranger District during the 2024 season. Our main objectives will be to continue trail maintenance, public outreach and education, road improvement projects, trash removal, implementation of the Travel Management Plan, sustainability, and compliance in line with the Colorado Parks and Wildlife's standards. We will continue efforts in road sign installs throughout the district while monitoring all users and conditions.

The OHV crew will continue basic maintenance work while emphasizing weekend public contacts, providing information, and OHV related education. The following riding areas are the main focus of the crew; Kingston Peak/Yankee Hill, Bill Moore Lake/Mill Creek, Argentine/Waldorf, Saxon Mountain, Devils Canyon/Barbour Fork, Democrat Mountain, Jones Pass and Pickle Gulch. These areas contain approximately 110 miles of routes open to all vehicles. These riding areas directly benefit the local economies of Idaho Springs, Georgetown, Empire, Central City, and Blackhawk. With a grant proposal for the installation of bathrooms and a dumpster at the Columbine Parking Area for the 2024 season, we will continue conducting compliance and education of proper usage of area for the 2024 season. Partners and Adopt-a-Road organizations will help participate in the monitoring and oversight of area(s).

Targeted goals for Clear Creek OHV Trail Crew for 2024 field season:

- Continue with the installation of road signs/carsonites throughout our trail systems: standardizing for public safety, clarification, and communication of legal routes within CCRD.
- Maintain and monitor high usage areas with education, compliance, trail maintenance: Barbour Fork, Yankee Hill, Bill Moore Lake, and Pickle gulch.
- Promote Adopt-a-Road club organizations and increase hours contributed.
- Update proper signage and chevrons on all FS gates.
- Monitor Illegal route usage and implement a project and sustainability plan for closure and enforcement.
- Plan, create, and implement educational programs for the public reenforcing the principles of, but not limited to, pack in pack out/leave no trace:
 - Trash and human waste mitigation.
 - OHV hand signals
 - Environmental protection: stay the trail principles
 - Slow down, move over
 - Noise reduction (speakers, music)
- Restoration of heavily impacted areas as needed.
- Continuing to work with the engineering staff on developing plans for routine route improvements and repairs to maintain sustainable OHV systems.
- Monitor user created routes, plan mitigation, and restoration.