

EXHIBIT A



COLORADO
 Parks and Wildlife
 Department of Natural Resources

2024-2025 SNOWMOBILE PROGRAM Grant Application

Name of Project: North Routt Snow Riders Groomer Purchase		Date of Application: 4/22/24	
<i>(Please limit the project name to 5 words or less)</i>			
Total Project Cost: \$200,000		Grant Request: \$100,000	
<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: North Routt Snow Riders			
Mailing Address: PO Box 756, Clark, CO 80428			
		Fax:	
Telephone: 303-916-5718		Email: northrouttsnowriders@gmail.com	
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: Gary Doven		Title: NRSR President	
Mailing Address: PO Box 756, Clark, CO 80428			
Telephone: 303-916-5718		Fax:	
		Email northrouttsnowriders@gmail.com	
Is this the primary contact for this grant: YES X NO			
PROJECT CLOSE-OUT CONTACT This is the person responsible for submitting receipts for project spending and close-out. Please notify us if <i>Project Contact</i> changes.			
Name: Larry Krug		Title: NRSR Vice President	
Mailing Address: PO Box 756, Clark, CO 80428			
Telephone: 303-588-7258		Fax:	
		Email: tlkrug@hotmail.com	
Mailing Address:			
Telephone:		Fax:	
		Email: tlkrug@hotmail.com	
PROJECT LOCATION			
Nearest Town or City: Clark			
County(ies): Routt			
Township/Range/Section:			
State Senate District #: 8		State Representative District #: 26	
Land Ownership:			
State x Federal x Private x Local Government			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:			
TRAIL USER INFORMATION :			
Snowmobile 80 %		X-Country Skiing 10 %	
Snow Shoeing 10 %		Camping/Hiking 0 %	

SCOPE OF WORK – Project Description:	
Project Name: NRSR Groomer purchase	Project No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Project Sponsor: North Routt Snow Riders	Application Year: 2024
Project Contact: Larry Krug	Application No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Total Project Cost: \$200,000	Grant Request: \$100,000

Project Description: Please write a brief description of your project: Only need to describe what you intend to purchase with grant funds. All other information such as project background, needs and benefits will be address in the Project Selection Criteria (Exhibit D).

Grant funding will be used to purchase an additional, used groomer to expand North Routt Snow Riders (NRSR) grooming capabilities and reduce potential downtime due to mechanical issues with a single groomer. Considering costs and capabilities of various groomer manufacturers, NRSR has decided to go with a used low hour Prinoth Bison. The club has found a 2018 Bison currently with 1986 hours, which the club has leased for the final month of the 2023/2024 season due to a breakdown of our 2005 Piston Bully tiller. This specific Bison is a 2018 with 1986 hours and has been quoted to NRSR for \$200,000 (see exhibit F for vendor quote), where we believe the actual retail value is closer to \$225,000. The Bison is equipped with a blade and tiller. The club is putting up \$100,000 of club funds to help pay for the second groomer.

2024-2025 SNOWMOBILE CAPITAL GRANT BUDGET FORM - EXHIBIT B

CLUB NAME: North Routt Snow Riders

PROJECT NAME: North Routt Snow Riders Groomer Purchase

ITEMS LISTED IN THE BUDGET BELOW SHOULD BE SPECIFIC AND CORRESPOND TO THE PLANNED ACTIVITIES INDICATED IN THE PROJECT DESCRIPTION (SCOPE OF WORK) ON YOUR GRANT APPLICATION.

PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES (Only enter data in cells that are NOT shaded)

List all sources and amounts of project funding in this section

SNOWMOBILE CAPITAL GRANT REQUEST AMOUNT			\$100,000.00
Funding Source	In-Kind (Non-Cash) Contributions	Cash	
Club Funds		\$100,000	\$100,000
Volunteer Support			\$ -
Contributions/Donations			\$ -
Trade In			\$ -
Other			\$ -
			\$ -
			\$ -
Total	\$ -	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST (grant request plus other funding sources)			\$ 200,000.00

USE OF GRANT FUNDING

List uses of Capital Grant Request Amount below

Purchase of 2018 Prinoth Bison with 1986.09 hours	\$100,000
	\$ -
	\$ -
	\$ -
	\$ -
	\$ -
	\$ -
	\$ -
TOTAL USE OF GRANT FUNDING	\$ 100,000.00

Exhibit D

PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA

Needs and Urgency of the Project (40 points):

A. Describe the need for this project.

The North Routt Snow Riders (NRSR) is responsible for grooming and maintaining 120 miles of trails within the Routt National Forest. The trail system regularly sees local recreators, most of which are snowmobilers, as well as tourists from across the country. Four local businesses also run snowmobile guiding and tourism on our trail network. The number of trail users has increased exponentially over the past 5 years which has increased the grooming needs substantially. NRSR has been able to assemble a dedicated team of volunteer groomers for these operations, but we are limited because of our aging, single groomer.

During the 23/24 season the tiller on our 2005 Pisten Bully with 7150 hours broke. The break was in the mounting plate and even though this had been welded several times, we were able to do some fabrication to get it back on the snow. This fix lasted for a few weeks, but ultimately broke again, at which point it was determined it was not repairable. That would put us out past our annual poker run, our largest fundraiser. Steamboat Lake Outpost has a groomer and helps with some of the trails as their in-kind contribution for the snowmobile rental business. However, their groomer was down as well and would not be fixed until after the season was over. We were able to find a groomer that we could lease to get us through the season, which is the groomer we wish to purchase. In the meantime, we have found a used tiller that we intend to purchase assuming everything checks out OK on it.

Recent annual efforts in fundraisers by the club members have increased funding sources and coupled with our ability to stretch the operational budget, we believe we're capable of operating and maintaining two groomers. Our 2005 Pisten Bully has 7,150 hours on it, and for the last few years we have run into mechanical failures that we've been able to fix, but with undesirable downtime. With our volunteers and resources, we believe we can operate the Pisten Bully for another two to five years with limited usage. A week or more of ungroomed trails due to mechanical issues requires much more time and maintenance to re-establish desirable trail conditions. Another groomer would alleviate stress on the Pisten Bully while allowing us to maintain more trails without the fear of consistent mechanical issues.

Two reasons we want to keep our existing Pisten Bully:

1. Our current Pisten Bully has just been set up with a drag NRSR picked up from the State of Wyoming. As we believe this drag will work very well on 70% of our trails and make grooming more efficient by packing the snow and making it less susceptible to getting whooped out as quickly. Due to the cost of getting this setup on our Pisten Bully, we want to use this periodically in the 2024/25 season to determine if this is a good direction to go.
2. Our Seedhouse trail head sees a lot of traffic and due to the lack of off trail riding for the first 7 miles, these 7 miles of trail should be groomed at least once a week. Once you travel past those 7 miles, the terrain opens up and the trail sees minimal usage for the next 6 miles, where it connects to our Hahns Peak trail system. For the next 12 miles of the Hahns Peak trail system, we have partnered with Steamboat Lake Outpost to assist with this grooming due to this being the route they use for most of their snowmobile tours. So, in order to groom the lower 7 miles of the Seedhouse trail we have to travel over 16 miles of trail that needs virtually no grooming, and then return over the same 18 miles. Overall, it is a 50 mile, 12-14 hour round trip, which we do not have the fuel capacity for and which makes for a very long trip for an operator. Therefore, by keeping our Pisten Bully, we can park it at the Seedhouse trail head and groom the 7 miles more often, with a savings of roughly \$1000 per trip, when calculated at \$125/hr.

Exhibit D

PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA

The 2018 Prinoth Bison offers upgraded capabilities, including higher horsepower, slightly wider tracks, extending its floatation over snow, as well as a more functional blade and tiller. The upgraded specs on the Bison will extend our grooming capabilities at times where the PB's abilities were maxed out or constrained due to age. Unlike the Pisten Bully, the Prinoth parts are available locally, and the ability to have many of the hydraulic lines and hoses rebuilt locally will greatly decrease downtime. In March of 2023, our PB was out of commission for an extended period of time while waiting on a specialized hose from PB parts suppliers. Steamboat Lake Outfitters, who helps with our grooming due to their snowmobile tours, also runs a Prinoth as does the Steamboat Ski Resort. This gives us some options for parts in the event of a breakdown.

As for maintaining and operating two groomers, NRSR has made great strides in recent years in terms of management. In the 22-23 Winter season, the club voted to take over all management of the club, in which Steamboat Lake State Park (SLSP) was previously performing a substantial amount. Steamboat Lake State Park has agreed to allowing groomer storage and club operations to continue out of their facility. NRSR has also managed to stretch operation dollars by switching grooming operators from paid to volunteer. This decision was made in part by these operators as well as club members, increasing our available grooming hours by lowering the hourly cost. To increase our available funds, NRSR just completed one of the most successful Poker Run fundraisers to date. Partnering with the North Routt Community Charter School, NRSR was able to raise just over \$36,000, of which \$10,000 was donated to the North Routt Community Charter School, and the remainder is being used to help pay for an additional groomer. The momentum that the club cabinet has generated is only increasing as we expand fundraising and donation opportunities as well as advertise membership to CSA and the club through social media and local postings.

- B. What is the importance of this project to your grooming program, the Colorado Snowmobile Program and your local community?

As previously stated, NRSR's ability to maintain the North Routt winter trails is dependent not only on our single groomer, but on a reliable groomer. When we run into mechanical issues, which leave the groomer inoperable, it leaves the trails in an undesirable state. Having attracted large numbers of destination recreators, maintaining our trails to the best of our budget and abilities has become priority one. Having trails in rough condition motivates recreators to go elsewhere and potentially decreases funding for CSA and trails as a whole. This also shows a notable economic impact on our local businesses who rely on these tourists during the winter months. Thanks to our dedicated volunteers who maintain the PB, we've been able to restore it to operating condition after every mechanical issue. With their efforts and experience, we believe we can continue running the PB for years to come by limiting the hours per year it operates. A second groomer would alleviate the strain on the PB as well as allow us to groom in any instance of major mechanical failure on the PB. Beyond having an operational groomer at all times, having an additional groomer can maximize our potential for maintaining the trails that NRSR is responsible for. This offers us an opportunity to better maintain the more regularly used trails without neglecting peripheral trails. With groomers staged at opposite sides of the trail system, operators can access each side easily without having to groom for lengthy periods. Currently, to groom from our groomer storage location to the trails near Seedhouse/Diamond Park, it takes roughly 4-6 hours, depending on conditions, *just to get there*. One of our volunteers has graciously been meeting the sno-cat at the trailhead on the other side with his personal ranch truck to refuel as a run through the entire eastern trail system and back consumes more fuel than the PB can carry at one time, even with its auxiliary fuel supply. This fuel issue has been negated before, but only by missing some sections on of trail on the eastern side.

Exhibit D

PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA

NRSR also plays a unique role in the management of non-motorized recreational areas both inside and outside of Steamboat Lake State Park. Inside of Steamboat Lake State Park, 6 miles of designated non-motorized trails are maintained using the club's groomer. As such we are a unique club where we have several members that are non-motorized users and through a specific effort to raise money from the non-motorized community, we did a fundraiser at the Nordic trail system at the state park. This raised over \$5,000 in donations from them as well. Access to the suggested non-motorized area on the Northwest side of Hahns Peak is also now provided by NRSR as a product of the trail system. Appropriate signage and trail markers are also posted in this area by the Friends of Routt Backcountry as well as NRSR. Since NRSR has begun grooming through this area, the provided signage has educated riders and greatly reduced snowmobilers off-trail in the suggested non-motorized area, aiding in strengthening relations between local organizations and recreators.

- C. Why is it important to undertake this project now instead of at a later time? Please describe any elements that make this project urgent or time sensitive?

Given the club's great strides in recent years to re-establish itself, our biggest hurdle is our ability to provide an adequately groomed trail system, especially with our limited grooming funds. The current plan utilizing two groomers will not only allow us to do a better job grooming the most used trails but will be able to be done more efficiently meaning we'll be able to do a better job with our limited funding. Delaying the purchase of a second, newer groomer will mean further decline in the trail system and yet another black eye for the club. Acquiring a second groomer sooner than later will also allow us to begin raising funds to replace the PB as well. We believe we can keep the PB operation for another three to five years with limited use. In the meantime, we can raise funds to replace it. With our expanding volunteers, funding, and influence in the community, we believe now is the right time to take on a second groomer. Both local and visiting recreators would also like to see our grooming capabilities expand, and the only way to do so now is to acquire a second groomer.

- D. What is the impact on the Statewide Snowmobile Program if this project does not get funded?

Unkept trails due to an inability to maintain more trails at once, as well as the occasional mechanical issues preventing grooming, provokes riders from all over the country to go elsewhere. Other Colorado snow clubs in our area are already dealing with high use and congestion, so the increased pressure may be an unwelcome one on their part. A worse idea is that these riders may be going out of state which is a major loss of funding for the state and trails programs as well as local economic impacts.

The ability to maintain more trails at a time will also increase ease of access for backcountry and trail users alike. Better maintained trails also show a notable impact on S&R efforts by various agencies. A more pristine trail system has a positive reflection on our snow club as well as CSA. Our local membership is expected to and has increased when potential members see that their membership money is directly impacting their backcountry enjoyment, which will increase funding for CSA.

NRSR's trail management also has a direct impact on statewide trails and enforcement. The North Routt trail system plays a unique role in the training of statewide Law Enforcement Officers. Steamboat Lake State Park has been the staging area for the State's snowmobile training for decades. This has grown into (2) one-week training periods due to the number of

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PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA

people utilizing this training. CPW employees and Rangers, Wildlife Managers, and Trails personnel have been through this training which has benefited the state in terms of safety, agency outreach, and enforcement.

Benefits (30 points):

- A. What benefits will this project provide to the community and the Colorado Snowmobile Program?

The winter trails in North Routt are the single largest draw for winter tourism in Clark. Most of the local businesses are dependent on this tourism for income, and without it, we see businesses close for months out of the year. Many people, local or otherwise, consider North Routt to be a true gem for riding backcountry, and we cannot maintain that without being able to keep more of these trails in good order. A second, newer groomer would be the edge we need to better maintain the trails as well as grow our club.

- B. How does your grooming program protect and improve winter trail opportunities?

Providing well-maintained winter trails creates safe, seamless access to backcountry for recreators and first responders. A second, newer groomer would vastly improve the ability for NRSR to maintain a safe, smooth, and well signed trail system for recreators to access the great expanse of backcountry opportunities we have to offer. Our current plan will also better disperse recreators as we will be able to provide better trails from a trailhead that has been otherwise expensive for us to maintain as needed.

- C. What is unique about your trail system?

The North Routt winter trail system offers a mix-use recreation opportunity with tens of thousands of acres of backcountry between 8,000 and 11,000 foot elevations. This terrain includes higher alpine and lower, open meadows, offering a variety of riding experiences for all skill levels. North Routt also typically receives 300 plus inches of snow each winter, making our winter season longer than most other areas in the state.

North Routt also offers many ride-in, ride-out opportunities. Recreators can ride from their residential homes, places of lodging, or the state park and directly access the trail system or even access restaurants and businesses on the trail. There is a number of staging areas as well, all of which are interconnected by the groomed trails.

Local trails groomed by NRSR also link up to Snowy Range Snowmobile Club's groomed trails in Wyoming and Northwestern Colorado Snowmobile Club's trails to our west. Through groomed trails and backcountry areas, riders can also make their way into North Park. With all of these interconnected trails and areas, recreators can spend the entire day riding and never see the same place twice.

Our trail system is also utilized by four different snowmobile rental companies, which is a big impact to the trail system and local businesses alike.

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North Routt's trail system and backcountry areas are also the staging grounds for a variety of winter trainings which involve State, County, and local law enforcement, first responders, and other professionals.

D. What types and skill level of trail users does your trail system attract?

The North Routt winter trail system invites novice and adept users alike. Recreators can stay on trails the entire day or choose to recreate off trail into a huge expanse and variety of terrain. With the variety of riding opportunities, recreators can boondock in the woods with timber sleds or enjoy wide open meadows on snowmobiles. The trails have also provided opportunities for four local rental businesses and a dog sled tour company in the past. The NRSR trail system also attracts a diversified group of non-motorized recreators including cross-country and backcountry skiers, snowshoers, fat-tire bikers, hybrid users, and dog sledders.

E. Does your club offer any educational programs such as snowmobile safe riding or avalanche awareness? Explain what classes were offered last season.

NRSR itself has not offered formal educational programs as of recent but has extended education of snowmobiling and backcountry stewardship through the Poker Run fundraiser with the North Routt Community Charter School. We have recently made some connections with an avalanche training group, which we hope to partner with in the future for avalanche awareness training.

NRSR put on a grooming clinic for all our current operators as well as anyone that may be interested in grooming in the future. Billy Dines put on the clinic out of the state park. Billy has been grooming for over 20 years, and when you ride a trail he has groomed, it shows. Essentially, we wanted to have Billy share his knowledge with our current operators, so everyone can benefit from his experience. This was also a great opportunity for anyone that had interest in grooming to be able to learn from Billy and get a chance to have a brief hands-on opportunity to operate a snowcat. Everyone left feeling they had learned something, and we plan to do this again next year, providing Billy will take the time to share his knowledge.

Partnerships (10 points):

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PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA

- A. List all agencies or organizations that your grooming program partners with and how these partnerships enhance and improve each other's program.

US Forest Service, Steamboat Lake State Park/Colorado Parks & Wildlife, Friends of the North Routt Backcountry.

Due to our world-class riding opportunities, CPW holds annual winter skills trainings which utilizes the North Routt trail system. The training includes avalanche awareness, search and rescue classes, snowmobile operations, winter survival skills, snowmobile registration enforcement, and public outreach. Agencies who have benefited from this training include CPW, United States Military EOD, Utah DNR personnel, State, County, and local Police, CAIC, and Search & Rescue Organizations.

- B. If your club is awarded this grant, describe how the club will promote or acknowledge the use of Colorado snowmobile registration funds and the capital grant program as a funding source for the project?

Funding sources will be acknowledged utilizing signage at trailheads, staging areas, and at local businesses. In addition, stickers and banners reflecting "Purchased with your trail dollars" and/or "Your trail dollars at work" will be added to our groomers. We are currently and will continue to utilize social media sites, newsletters, and emails to all of our active members to educate everyone on how we are funded. Announcements at all of our fundraiser events and public meetings, emphasizing that these funds are ultimately a result of the dollars recreators spend on their registrations. Links to CSA/club membership as well as ways to donate or get involved will be provided. Many of the above are already in place as we have been trying to educate our members and those in the community as to how our funding works in our effort to increase memberships and donations while doing fundraisers for a new groomer.

Leverage (20 points):

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PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA

- A. List and describe all sources of revenue or in-kind services that will be used to fund your grant funded project. List and explain any donations, contributions or other ways this project will be funded.

NRSR receives donations from private parties and local businesses including some of the rental businesses who utilize the trail system. For the past two seasons NRSR has expected the four rental operators in our trail system to make a financial donation to the club or equivalent "in kind" contribution to support our trails. All dollars received by tour operations go directly to the grooming budget to support the trails.

The club also completed its 4th annual Poker Run, which also benefited the North Routt Community Charter School. This was the second year the club performed all duties of the fundraiser without help from Steamboat Rotary Club. NRSR paid itself an hourly rate for grooming the poker run trails, in addition to funds raised overall. Funds from donations and fundraising efforts will be used to help pay for the additional sno-cat, totaling \$100,000. The club is also holding roughly \$55,000 in reserve funds. Roughly \$35,000 of which is earmarked for our groomer shed, which needs a new overhead door and a concrete floor, and roughly \$5,000 for a new tiller for our Pisten Bully. The remainder would be reserved for operation and secondary expenses associated with the groomer purchase and operating two groomers.

- B. Describe what aspects of the clubs grooming operations are provided by volunteers. Explain and highlight the number of volunteer hours provided last grooming season.

In previous years, NRSR's best way to attract and retain groomer operators was to pay them. Now that NRSR has bolstered its membership, outreach, and management, our operators have become volunteers. Volunteers are utilized for groomer operations, groomer mechanics, signage and marker maintenance, tree removal, club outreach, and fundraiser efforts.

During the 23/24 season, our volunteers spent over 840 hours associated with grooming. 303 hours were logged in the groomer down from last year by 37 hours, due to our grooming season being about a month and a half shorter than last year and a mechanical tiller problem that kept us from grooming for 2 weeks. Just over 100 hours were logged doing preseason maintenance on the Cat which included rotating the track sprockets and regular maintenance items. We had a handful of breakdowns this year, all of which were fixed by our volunteers, except for the major tiller breakdown that will require a different tiller. We also held a grooming clinic which involved all our operators.

While not specifically related to grooming, our volunteers logged another 800 hours, from developing a new webpage, poker run efforts, and general club operations.

- C. Does your program pay, contract or compensate for any services or aspects of its operations. Explain and highlight all compensated expenses from your last grooming season.

NRSR previously paid groomer operators an hourly wage through the State Park's management. Last year all groomer operators decided to move to volunteer status so that we could stretch our operating budget and grooming period. NRSR spent \$5466.79 on labor costs

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in the 21-22 winter season and has been able to save at least that much the last two seasons by utilizing volunteers.

D. What are the compensation rates and how are they established?

We do not currently pay our operators.

E. Is your club trading or selling a snow cat or any equipment as part of this grant funded project? What is the value of trade/sale and how was this price established?

No

By our estimate, our groomer is worth approximately \$45,000, but as previously mentioned, there are a number of reasons we want to continue to use our existing groomer. We expect to put about 80 hours per year on our current groomer, for the next 2-5 years, at which point we will have about 7500 hours on it and should still be worth approximately \$40,000.

REVIEW COMMITTEE:

Do you wish to present your project to the Review Committee: Yes

Name of Presenter: Larry Krug | Gary Doven

Phone number: 303-588-7258 | 303-916-5718

E-mail address: tlkrug@hotmail.com | northrouthsnowriders@gmail.com

For perfect pistes ...



April 17, 2024

Steamboat Lake Snow Club
Clark, CO 80428

Larry,

I am pleased to present you the following pricing as you requested for a 2018 Used Bison X. Please let me know if you have any questions.

2018 Prinoth Bison X Tier IV equipped as follows:

Used 2018 Bison S serial number 908930226 with approx. 1,880 hours	
Center cabin operator seat with left side passenger seat and right side instructor seat	
Full LED lighting package	
Heated side windows, windshield, rear window, and mirrors	
Multifunctional joystick with steering levers	
Rear view camera	
12-way MASTER blade with quick mount	
Premium POSIFLEX tiller with side finishers	
Long rear lift frame	
Snow fenders	
Solid rubber tires	
66" MASTER climber steel tracks with ice caulks and premium belting	
Rexroth drive system	
Front hydrostatic drive	
Caterpillar C9.3 406hp Tier 4F electronic engine	
Vehicle price:	\$200,000.00

For perfect pistes ...

The Prinoth logo is written in a stylized, red, italicized font.

Quote is valid for 30 days.
Applicable sales tax not included in quote price.
Includes set-up and operator training.

Payment Terms:

20% down payment or equal trade-in value due at signature; balance due on delivery.

Trade-in:

None

Freight:

TBD

Delivery Date:

TBD

Warranties:

Vehicle warranty – Vehicle sold As-Is with no warranty.

Thank you,

Scott Stephens
Sales Representative

The Prinoth logo is written in a stylized, red, italicized font.

PRINOTH LLC
2746 Seeber Drive Bldg B
Grand Junction CO 81506 USA
Mob. +1 970 640 4042
Tel. +1 970 242 7150
Fax +1 970 241 6722
scott.stephens@prinoth.com
www.prinoth.com

Letter of Recommendation

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to wholeheartedly support the grant application for a new snowcat for the North Routt community. My personal experience underscores the critical need for such equipment in our remote areas.

The necessity of such equipment became painfully clear on February 3, 2024, when my son suffered a severe accident while snowmobiling in a particularly isolated region in Routt County known as California Park. A dedicated team of EMS, Search and Rescue volunteers, and snowmobile guides endured hazardous blizzard conditions to reach my son who was in excruciating pain after dislocating his hip. Larry Krug was crucial to the success of the entire team. He expertly groomed the heavily trafficked trail to ensure it could be used as a safe escape route for the rescue team and patient. Larry's expertise in transforming the snocross-like trail into a smooth surface ensured a swift and smooth evacuation for not just my son but everyone there that fateful night.

This incident highlights the importance of well-prepared rescue paths that can only be achieved with a snowcat. Following the accident, we held a gathering to show our appreciation for the rescuers. At this event, it was unanimously agreed that the groomed trail was critical to the success of the evacuation.

I appreciate your consideration of the North Routt community as the recipient of this grant for a new snowcat. I know I speak for the community: this new equipment would undoubtedly provide winter recreationists with the necessary means for safer passages as they navigate the beauty of the great outdoors.

Warm regards,

Terri Browning

A Grateful Mother



To Whom it May Concern:

The North Routt Snow Riders contributions to grooming in the area have been substantial and appreciated, but they are limited. Along with a larger allotment of hours, the snow club needs to purchase a second groomer to maintain the trails at minimum level. Use of the winter trail systems continues to increase, and North Routt is no secret to riders from around the country. They are the only organization that receives funding for grooming our trails, and they are held to a high standard. A second machine will allow them to have a more reliable machine and allow them to station machines in multiple areas. This will help to take the burden off of local permittees to keep trails groomed and allow the funded snow club to more adequately groom the trails that are used the most.

As a permittee, we participate in the grooming, albeit with older machines. As such, we often find ourselves waiting for parts for the inevitable repairs while the demand and pressure on the trails continues to affect the overall marketability of the industries that depend on these trails. The North Routt Snow Riders, equipped with a dependable machine, would feed the growth of our local economy by continuing to make our community a go-to destination for a variety of snow enthusiasts.

I am grateful for the time and efforts of the North Routt Snow Club. They are well run and would be excellent stewards of a grant. A new machine would require approximately \$300,000 – not a small sum. However, the return to our local economy and the opening of our beautiful backcountry to locals and folks from around the US would be substantial. It makes sense.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Martin", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Ben Martin

Executive General Manager

Vista Verde Guest Ranch and Steamboat Lake Outpost



COLORADO
Parks and Wildlife
Department of Natural Resources

Steamboat Lake and Pearl Lake State Parks
PO Box 750
Clark, Colorado 80428
P 970.879.3922 | F 970.879.8258

April 11, 2024

To Whom it May Concern:

I am pleased to be writing a letter in support of the effort to acquire a groomer by The North Routt Snow Riders Snow Club. The Snow Club is an excellent partner organization that works to provide groomed trails in order to accommodate the winter recreation in North Routt and around Steamboat Lake State Park. We strongly support the Club's efforts to ensure future grooming in this area by acquiring funding for a groomer.

Sincerely,

Julie Arington,
Park Manager



STEAMBOAT LAKE
OUTPOST

Steamboat Lake Outpost
60880 County Road 129
#1107
Clark, CO 80428

April 9, 2024

To Whom it May Concern:

The North Routt Snow Riders contributions to grooming in the area have been great, but the amount of traffic we receive cannot be managed by one grooming machine from 2005. Along with a larger allotment of hours, the local snow club needs to purchase a second groomer. NRSR is the only organization that receives the limited funding from the state for grooming the trails in North Routt. There is a lot of pressure for them to groom often, consistently, and create a great product. Due to a lack of support from the state level financially, this non-profit is not able to adequately serve recreationalists in this area. A newer machine will help to take the burden off of local permittees to keep trails groomed and allow the funded snow club to more adequately groom the trails that are used the most.

In addition to the snowmobile traffic North Routt receives, there are also ample opportunities for cross country skiing. Vendors in the area also rely on the grooming to provide an exceptional experience for guests visiting this area for non-motorized activities.

The snow club in North Routt is integral to our community. Winter outdoor recreation is a galvanizing thing in North Routt. People structure many of their friendships and finances around recreating here. The snow club is a big part of facilitating a great experience for the local community and tourists. The March Poker Run is not only a fundraiser to bring out people who love to snowmobile but is a great event to raise money for the local Charter school; an important part of making this community special.

I recommend rewarding North Routt Snow Riders with the grant to allow them to purchase the \$200,000 2018 Prinoth Bison machine. This rewards users across North Routt and helps us provide the recreational experience that all the businesses and residents up here desire.

Thank you,



Ben Simms, General Manager

To whom it may concern,

Routt County Search and Rescue (RCSAR) would like to offer our support of North Routt Snow Riders efforts to acquire a second groomer. Our team of 40 volunteers is responsible for backcountry rescues across nearly 3,000 square miles of northwest Colorado, and in the winter our most common mission profile is assisting lost or injured snowmobilers. This winter we responded to 35 calls - with nearly 70% of those being for motorized users - which is a typical call volume and distribution for the team. It is clear on these calls just how critical having well groomed and marked trails is for not only our team, but for the recreating public as well. There were a number of instances this winter where this was readily apparent, either due to lack of grooming/markings or due to excellent and smooth trail conditions.

As the state may be aware, another area club had unexpected issues that were out of their control with their ability to fully groom all of the published trails on Rabbit Ears Pass. This lack of grooming and marking created serious safety concerns for our team and we worked with the club and the highest levels of the local USFS district to try and find a solution to the grooming impasse. We were worried that recreators would venture out along the published routes expecting a marked and groomed trail, only to find deep powder or deep whoops. We responded to a handful of calls for snowmobilers who had gotten their trail machines stuck in deep snow on an ungroomed and unmarked but published trail, and we also had a number of calls where the patients had to endure miles of whoops as the team slowly and carefully transported an injured rider to a waiting ambulance at the trailhead. The team also relies on groomed and marked trails to navigate during blizzards or at night. In these instances, the trail is a literal lifeline for the team to be able to safely operate in these difficult conditions. Just last winter [RCSAR, with the assistance of a Routt Powder Riders groomer, saved the lives of 7 snowmobilers](#) on Buffalo Pass. This all goes to show the importance of groomed and marked trails provided by the local snowmobile clubs. Our team absolutely relies on the work the volunteers at these clubs do to keep area trails maintained, and these efforts have a direct impact on the safety and well-being of snowmobilers in the region.

We would like to specifically highlight the exceptional work Larry Krug and the North Routt Snow Riders (NRSR) organization undertook on a snowy night in early February to assist in rescuing a seriously injured rider from California Park. This is one of the more remote areas in Routt County and at the edge of NRSRs grooming responsibilities. Time was of the essence, as the rider had been exposed to the elements for hours and was in need of immediate medical attention. Rescue teams responded from Hayden, to the south, and from Steamboat Lake, to the east. Reports from the team traveling north were that the road was unmarked and ungroomed (due to a groomer breaking down earlier in the winter), which made for slow going. Evacuating the injured rider along this route was not an option. Due to the weather, neither was a flight from a medical helicopter. The only route left was via a trail from Steamboat Lake which, according to one of the first responders, looked like a snowcross course because the whoops were so deep. The RCSAR Incident Commander immediately contacted NRSR to see if they would be able to groom the trail on short notice. Much to their surprise, Mr. Krug was already in the snowcat and heading that way, alerted by friends

of the subject that there was an emergency. By the time the groomer reached California Park, the rescue party had packaged the patient and begun to head back to Steamboat Lake, knowing there would be smooth trails the whole way. Due to the nature of the riders injuries, this would have been an excruciatingly slow and painful ride had NRSR not been able to lend a hand with their groomer. Instead, the team was able to quickly, comfortably and without any hindrance reach the waiting ambulance in order to get the rider on the way to the hospital. Without the ability for NRSR to quickly respond to assist on this incident, the patient would have endured more pain and suffering and we are grateful for the actions of Mr. Krug that night.

RCSAR cannot fully carry out our statutory responsibilities in a safe, expedient and professional manner without the assistance of local grooming clubs. Just this winter we have seen both the positive and negative impacts of grooming operations - or lack thereof - and it is clear just how critical these organizations are for making the backcountry a safer place to recreate in the winter. We support North Routt Snow Riders efforts to secure a second groomer for their operations, as this will bring a multitude of benefits to the area but ultimately result in safer trails for all.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Bobby Carlton
970-443-9493
R-35
President
Routt County Search and Rescue





Colorado Parks & Wildlife
Trails Program
13787 South Highway 85
Littleton, CO 80127

Greetings,

I am writing to support North Routt Snow Riders efforts to acquire funding/grant for a new snow groomer.

Snowmobilers, cross country skiers and snowshoers staying at Midnight Ranch for the last 27 years keep coming back because of the Fantastic Trail System here in North Routt!

Trail Groomers Keep Winter Activities and Economy Alive!-) It's time to retire/upgrade with a new "Groomer."

Please help this snowmobile club in any way possible.

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Coolidge". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Steve Coolidge
midnightranch@gmail.com

970.870.3456



April 9, 2024

Colorado Parks & Wildlife
13787 S Hwy 85
Littleton, CO 80127

Dear Colorado Parks & Wildlife.

The Friends of the Routt Backcountry is a chapter of Colorado Mountain Club. We have been working with local public land agencies for the past 24 years to help create and maintain quality non-motorized use areas on public lands. It has been through cooperative dialogue between USFS, Steamboat Lake State Parks, Routt County and many diverse user groups that we have been able to create a non-motorized use area on Hahns Peak. The non-motorized use area allows a marked and groomed snowmobile trail to cut across and through it facilitating snowmobile traffic from Hahns Peak Village and the SL State Park to areas in North Routt on public lands used by the motorized community. The North Routt Snow Riders have offered to help with signage placement and removal and either end of the winter use season. Our community depends on cooperative effort to make this all happen.

This is a letter of support from our organization with respect to the North Routt Snow Club's efforts to acquire a second groomer for the extensive system of groomed trails, not only on National Forest lands but the State Park non-motorized use trails. The North Routt Snow Rider Club grooms a snowmobile trail through our newly recognized non-motorized-use area on Hahns Peak. We work together with the club through education and signage to keep snowmobilers and motorized users off of these small non-motorized use areas and ask them to stay on the trail.

The club does an amazing job with the resources it has but like most of Colorado, has seen tremendous growth in outdoor recreation.

In addition to the traffic increasing on the trails not just by snowmobilers, but skiers and snowshoers, snowmobile technology has made it even harder to keep up. High horsepower turbocharged engines along with deeper lug tracks make moguls larger than ever before.

There are 5 rental tour operators on this trail system adding to the frequency of sleds and they have all expressed safety concerns about bad trail conditions and accidents that occur from novice riders navigating such terrain.

In addition to grooming trails used by snowmobiles, the North Routt Snow Club grooms an entire Nordic trail system at Steamboat Lake State Park used by many skiers and snowshoers.

Personally, my organization will see a benefit to having a better maintained trail system and overall, this will be great for the local economy.

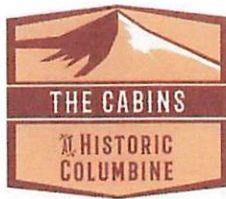
This is why I am endorsing this effort and offering my support to this initiative. We strongly recommend CPW help the club in any way it can by supporting the club's goal.

Respectfully,

Leslie Lovejoy

Friends of the Routt Backcountry
PO Box 713, Clark, CO 80428

frb@cmc.org



April 11, 2024

Colorado Parks & Wildlife
13787 S Hwy 85
Littleton, CO 80127

Subj: Letter of Support for North Routt Snow Rider's Capital Grant Request

Dear Trails Program,

This is a letter of support from The Cabins at Historic Columbine, a historic mining town with nightly, year-round cabin rentals in North Routt, with respect to the North Routt Snow Rider's efforts to acquire a new groomer.

The club does an amazing job with its limited resources, but like most of Colorado, has seen tremendous growth in outdoor recreation users year over year. In the past few years, the club has significantly improved its membership and fundraising efforts. Club leadership has worked hard to ensure the trail system is well marked and well maintained.

What used to work for this club 10 years ago doesn't work any longer and with the number of miles they need to cover and the type of terrain and volume of snow, its impressive as to what they do get done.

In addition to the traffic increasing on the trails not just by snowmobilers, but skiers and snowshoers, the continually advancing snowmobile technology has made it even harder to keep up. High horsepower, turbocharged engines along with deeper lug tracks make moguls larger than ever before.

There are four rental tour operators on this trail system adding to the number and frequency of users on the trails. Each of these operators have all expressed safety concerns about poor trail conditions and the potential for accidents to occur from novice riders navigating this complex terrain.

Our guests (snowmobilers and skiers alike) will greatly benefit from having access to a better maintained trail system.

We are club members and endorse this effort and offer our support to this initiative. We strongly recommend CPW help the club in any way it can by supporting the club's goal of acquiring a new groomer this year!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Todd A. Zvorak". The signature is stylized and written over a light blue circular scribble.

Todd A. Zvorak

Owner
The Cabins at Historic Columbine
www.historiccolumbine.com
970-879-5522

Exhibit H – Additional Terms and Conditions

1. Subject to the obligations and conditions set forth in this document, title to equipment acquired under a grant will vest upon acquisition to the grantee.
2. The grantee's use of the equipment is subject to the following conditions:
 - a. The grantee shall use the equipment only for activities and uses that are consistent with the uses outlined by the Snowmobile Recreation fund. The equipment shall not be used to benefit private individuals, lands or projects without prior written approval from CPW.
 - b. The grantee shall be liable to CPW for any failure to use the equipment in accordance with the applicable statute, including the premature sale or disposition of the equipment. The grantee's liability for such a failure shall be equal to funds contributed by CPW under a grant from the purchase or acquisition of equipment.
3. Record Keeping Requirements
 - a. Records must be maintained that include, at a minimum; a description of the equipment; a serial number or other identification number; who holds title; the acquisition date and cost of equipment; the percentage of State or grant funds used in the acquisition of the equipment; the location, use and condition of the equipment; and any ultimate disposition data including the date of disposal and sale price of the equipment. CPW shall at all times have the right to inspect these records upon request.
 - b. A physical inventory of the equipment must be taken and the results shared with CPW in order to be reconciled with the property records held by CPW at least once every two years.
 - c. A control system must be developed by grantee to ensure adequate safeguards to prevent loss, damage or theft of equipment. Any confirmed or suspected loss, damage, or theft – whether discovered via the process described in 3.b. or otherwise, shall be investigated by grantee in cooperation with CPW.
 - d. Adequate maintenance procedures must be developed and implemented to keep the equipment in good and working condition.

If awarded a snowmobile capital grant; I acknowledge and agree to the above terms and conditions.


Signature

GARY DOUEN
Printed Name

4/22/24
Date