



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

State Trails Program

13787 US Hwy. 85 N • Littleton, CO 80125

PH: (303) 791.1954 | F: (303) 470.0782

July 16-17, 2026

2026-2027 Snowmobile Program Grant funding awards as recommended by the State Recreational Trails Committee.

This letter is a summary and explanation of the enclosed Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) 2026-2027 Snowmobile Program Grant funding recommendations for Parks and Wildlife Commission (PWC) approval during the July 2026 meeting. We are recommending approval for 6 grants for a total award amount of \$392,208.03.

Background Information:

The State Trails Program, a statewide program within Colorado's Parks and Wildlife Division (CPW), administers grants for trail-related projects on an annual basis. Local, county, and state governments, federal agencies, special recreation districts, and non-profit organizations with management responsibilities over public lands may apply for and are eligible to receive snowmobile program grants.

Colorado's Snowmobile Program

The Snowmobile Program is statutorily created, C.R.S. 33-14-101 through 33-14-119, and is funded through the sale of snowmobile registrations and use permits. During the 2025-2026 field season, over 34,000 snowmobiles were registered or permitted for use in Colorado. The price of an annual snowmobile registration is \$51.25. Funds are used to support the Statewide Snowmobile Grant and Grooming Programs as well as snowmobile registration operations. Funding is also made available to support safety, education, and enforcement patrols as well as the Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC). The program's primary goal is to improve and enhance snowmobile recreation opportunities across the state while promoting the safe and responsible use



Laura Clellan, Director, Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Parks and Wildlife Commission: Richard Reading, Chair • James 'Jay' Tutchton, Vice-Chair • Eden Vardy, Secretary • Jessica Beaulieu • Frances Silva Blayney • John Emerick • Tai Jacober • Dallas May • Jack Murphy • Gabriel Otero

of snowmobiles. The Snowmobile Program partners with the Colorado Snowmobile Association (CSA) who represents organized snowmobiling within the state. There are 27 snowmobile clubs under the CSA umbrella that participate in the statewide grooming program.

Last year, \$735,000 was provided from the snowmobile recreation fund to grooming clubs to maintain and sign over 2700 miles of winter trails which are open to all winter sports enthusiasts. Grooming funds enable the clubs to cover the costs of fuel, insurance, equipment maintenance and repairs. Clubs that groom typically apply for grant funding to assist with the purchase of grooming equipment, construction of facilities to house equipment, and trailhead improvements.

State Trails Committee

The creation and role of the Committee is set forth in sections 33-11-105 to 107, C.R.S. In addition to using the Committee as an advisory body on the expenditure of funds appropriated by the General Assembly, the Commission also uses the Committee as an advisory body on the expenditure of federal and GOCO funds available for recreational trail purposes. The Committee consists of eleven members appointed by the Commission representing each of the eight congressional districts, one At Large member who represents Off Highway Vehicle interests, one At Large member who represents Snowmobile interests, and one member who represents the GOCO Board. The Committee reviews, scores, ranks and submits recommendations for the funding of Recreational Trails grants to the Commission for their consideration and final approval. Sections 33-11-105 to 33-11-107, C.R.S., describe the roles, responsibilities and relationship of the State Trails Committee in working with the Commission.

Grant Application Review Process:

Snowmobile Program grant applications are sent out by e-mail and are posted on the Colorado Parks & Wildlife's website. Trail grant opportunities are publicized through newsletters, the State website, and e-mail information networks. Technical assistance for grant preparation is provided by the State Trails Coordinators to potential applicants requesting assistance. The Commission, through its Policy A-104, has authorized a subcommittee structure to assist the Committee in formulating its grant recommendations. Subcommittee members are appointed for the purpose of reviewing and ranking grants and compiling funding recommendations for the Committee.

Snowmobile Program Grant Review and Ranking Process

The subcommittee conducts a comprehensive review of all grant applications submitted before making recommendations to the Committee. All projects are evaluated and ranked against each other. The Snowmobile Program grant review and ranking procedure follows a three-tiered recommendation and approval process. Applications are scored and evaluated by the Snowmobile Grant Review and Ranking

Subcommittee which ranks the applications in order of recommended funding priority. The ranked applications are passed to the State Trails Committee which evaluates the applications in ranked order and recommends funding strategies to the Commission. The Commission gives final approval of the projects recommended for funding. Public input is solicited as part of the grant review process. Public comments are accepted by e-mail, letter, and during public meetings.

Snowmobile Program Grant Review and Ranking Subcommittee

The Snowmobile Program Grant Review and Ranking Subcommittee is comprised of thirteen (13) scoring members including the subcommittee Chairperson who is a member of the State Trails Committee chosen by the Commission to represent snowmobile interests; eight (8) snowmobile district representatives, one from each of the state's designated snowmobile areas, who are appointed by the Chairperson; and four (4) Colorado Parks and Wildlife Regional Trail Coordinators. A representative from District 1 was not available for scoring this year.

Appendix A lists the members of the State Trails Committee and members of the Snowmobile Subcommittee and the area they represent.

2026-2027 Snowmobile Program Grant Applications

This year's Snowmobile Program Grant applications were due April 20, 2026.

Total application funding requests were as follows:

Grant Category	Number of Applications	Requested Funding
Snowmobile Program Grants	7	\$437,208.03

Funding:

Available funding for the 2026-2027 Snowmobile Program Grant cycle is \$437,208.03 from the following funding source:

Source of Funding	Dollars Available
Snowmobile Program Registration Funds	\$392,208.03

Discussion and Summary:

Snowmobile Program Grant applicants presented project details before the Subcommittee at the annual presentations meeting held on May 9, 2026, in Salida, CO. Appendix B is a Project Summary of the 2026-2027 Snowmobile Program Grant applications. Appendix C is a spreadsheet summarizing the scoring results with their rankings and recommended funding levels.

Considering the Trails Program Strategic Plan, the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and input from the Trails Program staff and subcommittee, the Committee recommends priority funding of:

Grant Category	Number of Grants	Proposed Funding
Snowmobile Program Grants	6	\$392,208.03

Division Recommendation:

CPW staff and the Snowmobile Grant Review and Ranking Subcommittee have recommended the attached 2026-2027 Snowmobile Program Grants ranking and funding list (Appendix C) for the Commission's review and recommendation. It is suggested that minor adjustments of project funding levels be permitted at the discretion of the CPW Director or their designee. It is also recommended that any additional project money that is received be rolled over into the 2027-2028 Snowmobile Program Grant Cycle, or into the 2026-2027 grooming season.

If you have any questions on this information, feel free to contact Fletcher Jacobs at fletcher.jacobs@state.co.us or 720-622-4129 prior to the Commission meeting. Thank you.

FY27 State Recreational Trails Committee Roster

July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027

Committee Members	District/Representation
<i>Whitney Johnson</i> 1 st term expiration: 06/30/2029	District 1 Non-motorized
<i>Meara McQuain</i> 2 nd Term Expiration: 06/30/2029	District 2 NM Subcommittee Chair Non-Motorized
<i>Mick Daniel</i> 2 nd term expiration: 06/30/2028	District 3 STC Committee Vice-Chair Diversified
<i>Brad Schwartz</i> 2 nd Term Expiration: 06/30/2028	District 4 Motorized
<i>Jason Meyer</i> 2 nd Term Expiration: 06/30/2029	District 5 NM Subcommittee Chair Local Government Representative
<i>Vacant</i>	District 6
<i>Jack Placchi</i> 2 nd Term Expiration: 06/30/2029	District 7 OHV Representative Non-motorized Non-Motorized
<i>Bevin Carithers</i> 2 nd term expiration: 06/30/2030	District 8 LWCF Subcommittee Chair Non-Motorized
<i>Zachary Shacter</i> 1 st Term Expiration 06/30/2028	At Large Snowmobile Subcommittee Chair Snowmobile Representative Motorized
<i>Heather Hormell</i> 2 nd Term Expiration: 06/30/2030	At Large STC Committee Chair OHV Subcommittee Chair OHV Representative Motorized
<i>Pam Denahy</i> Term Expiration: N/A	GOCO Representative NM Subcommittee Chair

2026 - 2027 Snowmobile Subcommittee Members**Appendix A**

Snowmobile Subcommittee Member	Colorado Snowmobile Association District Representation
Vacant	District 1
Courtney Donovan	District 2
Jim Allesio	District 3
Dana Jenick	District 4
Ray Doble	District 5
Ross Muzik	District 6
Tom Carl	District 7
Braden Todd	District 8
Bryan Meadar	District 9
Randy Engle	CPW Northwest Trails Coordinator
Josh Stoudt	CPW Southwest Trails Coordinator
Tappen Brown	CPW Southeast Trails Coordinator
Luke Svare	CPW Northeast Trails Coordinator
Zachery Shacter	Subcommittee Chair- Member of the State Trails Committee representing Snowmobile interest

**COLORADO****Parks and Wildlife**

Department of Natural Resources

2026-2027 Snowmobile Grant Summaries

Appendix B

Project Number/Region	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Grant Type	Amount Requested	Total Project Cost
01	Rock Hazard Mitigation, Trail Maintenance	Delta SnoKrusers Snowmobile Club	Equipment	\$18,500.00	\$32,700.00
	The grant funding will be used to hire an excavating contractor for three weeks to work alongside our volunteers to mitigate rock hazards off of the SP Snowmobile Trail.				
02	Parking Lot Upgrade Project	Northwest Colorado Snowmobile Club	Equipment	\$7,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
	The grant funding will be used to truck in gravel to improve the parking lot at the trail head on County Rd 38.				
03	Snowcat Purchase Completion	Summit Snow Riderz	Equipment	\$45,000.00	\$130,000.00
	The grant funding will be used to complete the acquisition of a 2018 Prinoth Bison Snowcat which will be used exclusively for winter trail grooming and maintenance within the club's trail system.				
04	Rabbit Ears Groomer Maintenance	Routt Powder Riderz	Maintenance	\$76,903.00	\$156,767.29
	The grant funding will be used to complete maintenance and repairs on two groomers that are used to support the multi-use trail system based on Rabbit Ears and Buff Pass.				
05	Tiller and Rear Lift Frame Repairs for 2015 Husky	Holy Cross Powder Hounds	Maintenance	\$10,805.03	\$14,805.03
	The grant funding will be used to pay for repairs for the club's 2015 Prinoth Husky Snowcat				
06	ASC Groomer Purchase	Arrowhead Snowmobile Club	Equipment	\$215,000.00	\$325,000.00
	The grant funding will be used to purchase a newer, used snow groomer to replace the existing snow groomer that is end-of-life and in need of continuous repairs.				
07	2026-2028 CSA Training/Awareness	Colorado Snowmobile Association	Training	\$64,000.00	\$74,000.00
	The grant funding will be used to update training materials to certify youth operators.				



COLORADO
Parks and Wildlife
 Department of Natural Resources

2026-2027 Snowmobile Application Details
 Appendix C
 Scores

APP #	Project Name	Zachary Schacter	Courtney Donovan	Jim Allessio	Dana Jenick	Ray Doble	Ross Muzik	Thomas Carl	Braden Todd	Bryan Meador	Josh Stoudt	Randy Engle	Luke Svare	Tappan Brown	Final Scores (Outliers Removed)
1	Rock Hazard Mitigation, Trail Maintenance	91	100	100	100	90	90	86	92	75	86	92	84	84	91.25
2	Parking Lot Upgrade Project	72	90	70	85	80	85	83	86	70	85	81	82	81	80.77
3	Snowcat Purchase Completion	62	88	Recuse	65	65	64	68	90	80	60	60	62	68	69.33
4	Rabbit Ears Groomer Maintenance	84	Recuse	90	90	85	93	92	89	80	86	94	90	85	88.17
5	Tiller and Rear Lift Frame Repairs for 2015 Husky	85	93	85	90	85	93	89	88	65	88	90	86	83	87.92
6	ASC Groomer Purchase	90	100	90	95	95	93	93	91	90	89	91	92	86	91.25
7	2026-2028 CSA Training/Awareness	79	88	85	70	90	80	95	94	100	85	85	88	84	87.75