



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

State Trails Program
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June 22-23, 2023

2023-2024 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) 2023-2024 Snowmobile Program Grant funding recommendations for Parks and Wildlife Commission (PWC) approval during the June 2023 meeting. We are recommending approval for 9 grants for a total award amount of \$536,208.

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 2022 field season, 34,376 snowmobiles were registered or permitted for use in Colorado. The price of an annual snowmobile registration is \$30.25. 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. The program's primary goal is to improve and enhance snowmobile recreation opportunities across the state while promoting the safe and responsible use of snowmobiles. The Snowmobile Program partners with the Colorado Snowmobile Association (CSA) who represents organized snowmobiling within the state. There are 35 snowmobile clubs under the CSA umbrella; of these 35 clubs, 27 of them participate in the statewide grooming program.

Last year, \$796,748 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 Colorado Recreational Trails Committee consists of eleven members appointed by the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission to represent the trails and outdoor recreational interests of the general public. The committee membership consists of members from each of Colorado's congressional



districts of which one represents local government interests; one at-large member who represents OHV interests; one at-large member who represents Snowmobile interests; and one member who represents the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Board. The Committee reviews, scores, ranks and submits recommendations for 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 posted on CPW’s Trails Program website each year. 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 comment is 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 fourteen (14) scoring members including the subcommittee Chairperson who is a member of the State Trails Committee chosen by the Commission to represent snowmobile interests; nine (9) 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.

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

2023-2024 Snowmobile Program Grant Applications

This year’s Snowmobile Program Grant applications were due April 21, 2023.

Total application funding requests were as follows:

Grant Category	Number of Applications	Requested Funding
Snowmobile Program Grants	12	\$1,088,332

FUNDING:

Available funding for the 2023-2024 Snowmobile Program Grant cycle is \$536,208 from the following funding source:

Source of Funding	Dollars Available
Snowmobile Program Registration Funds	\$ 504,000
Motorized Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Funds	\$ 32,208
Total	\$ 536,208

DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY:

Snowmobile Program Grant applicants presented project details before the Subcommittee at the annual presentations meeting held on May 20, 2023 in Glenwood Springs, CO. Appendix B is a Project Summary of the 2023-2024 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	9	\$536,208

DIVISION RECOMMENDATION:

CPW staff and the Snowmobile Grant Review and Ranking Subcommittee have recommended the attached 2023-2024 Snowmobile Program Grants ranking and funding list (Appendix C) for the Committee’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 2024-2025 Snowmobile Program Grant Cycle, or into the 2024-2025 grooming season.

If you have any questions on this information, or anything else related to the grants program, feel free to contact Fletcher Jacobs at fletcher.jacobs@state.co.us prior to the Commission meeting. Thank you.

COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE DIVISION

Appendix A

State Recreational Trails Committee Members

COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE	DISTRICT/REPRESENTATION
Jill Ozarski 2 nd Term Expiration: 06/30/2025	District 1 STC Committee Vice-chair NM Subcommittee Chair <u>Non-motorized</u>
Meara McQuain 1 st Term Expiration: 06/30/2025	District 2 NM Subcommittee Chair <u>Non-Motorized</u>
Mick Daniel 1 st Term Expiration: 06/30/2024	District 3 <u>Diversified</u>
Brad Schwartz 1 st Term Expiration: 06/30/2024	District 4 <u>Motorized</u>
Jason Meyer 1 st Term Expiration: 06/30/2025	District 5 NM Subcommittee Chair <u>Local Government Representative</u>
Vacant Term Expiration: 06/30/2026	District 6
Jack Placchi 1 st Term Expiration: 06/30/2025	District 7 OHV Representative Non-motorized <u>Non-Motorized</u>
Bevin Carithers 1 st Term Expiration: 06/30/2026	District 8 <u>Non-Motorized</u>
Janelle Kukuk 2 nd Term Expiration 06/30/2024	At Large STC Committee Chair Snowmobile Subcommittee Chair <u>Motorized/Snowmobile Representative</u>
Heather Hormell 1 st Term Expiration: 06/30/2026	At Large OHV Subcommittee Chair <u>Motorized/OHV Representative</u>
Pamela Denahy Term Expiration: N/A	GOCO Representative NM Subcommittee Chair



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Appendix A	
Colorado Parks and Wildlife 2023-2024 Snowmobile Program Subcommittee Members	
SNOWMOBILE SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBER	DISTRICT REPRESENTATION
Adam Northrup	DISTRICT 1
Ron Spencer	DISTRICT 2
Dennis Lynton	DISTRICT 3
Vacant	DISTRICT 4
Ray Doble	DISTRICT 5
Ross Muzik	DISTRICT 6
Tom Carl	DISTRICT 7
Mark Hollingshead	DISTRICT 8
Ken Hilficker	DISTRICT 9
Randy Engle	CPW NORTHWEST REGION TRAILS COORDINATOR
Josh Stoudt	CPW SOUTHWEST REGION TRAILS COORDINATOR
Tappan Brown	CPW SOUTHEAST REGION TRAILS COORDINATOR
Luke Svare	CPW NORTHEAST REGION TRAILS COORDINATOR
Janelle Kukuk	SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR - Member of the State Trails Committee representing Snowmobile interest



Project Number/Region	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Grant Type	Amount Requested	Total Project Cost
1-SW	Groomer Purchase	White River Snowmobile Club	Equipment	\$30,000.00	\$286,000.00
	Purchase a 2021 Prinoth Bison S groomer or equivalent to replace the club's 2012 Prinoth Bison.				
2-NW	Groomer Purchase	Summit Snow Riderz	Maintenance	\$12,000.00	\$24,000.00
	Purchase a 2021 Prinoth Bison Stage 5 or equivalent to replace the club's 2009 Prinoth Bison.				
3-SW	Groomer Purchase	Gunnison County Snow Trackers	Equipment	\$220,000.00	\$310,000.00
	Purchase of a 2018 Prinoth Bison to replace the current 2013 Prinoth Bison.				
4-NW	Groomer Purchase	North Fork Snowmobile Club	Equipment	\$57,767.00	\$77,676.00
	Purchase a 2012 Bison X Groomer for the club to use as a second groomer.				
5-NW	Groomer Purchase	Northwest Colorado Snowmobile Club	Maintenance	\$5,315.00	\$9,315.00
	Purchase a used 2021 Prinoth Bison or equivalent, to replace the club's 2009 Prinoth BR350				
6-NW	Groomer Purchase	Silverton Snowmobile Club	Equipment	\$100,000.00	\$132,058.00
	Purchase a 2019 T5 Prinoth Bison for an upgraded replacement for a 2017 T4.				
7-NW	Groomer Purchase	North Routt Snow Riders	Equipment	\$214,500.00	\$282,000.00
	Purchase an additional groomer to expand North Routt Snow Riders grooming capabilities.				
8-NW	Groomer Replacement	White River Snowmobile Club	Equipment	\$30,000.00	\$286,000.00
	Purchase of a 2021 Piston Bully 100 to replace the club's damaged 2019 Piston Bully 100.				
9-NW	Strategic Overhaul	Summit Snow Riderz	Maintenance	\$12,000.00	\$24,000.00
	Maintenance to the club's 2011 Bison to repair welding frame cracks, replace the current bent push frame, cylinder, spherical bearing and pins.				
10-NW	Summer Maintenance	Northwest Colorado Snowmobile Club	Equipment	\$57,676.00	\$77,676.00
	Maintenance to the club's 2015 Prinoth Bison to check and replace all filters, belts, hoses, fluids, seals, bearings, gaskets, wiper blades, batteries, and fluids.				



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2023-2024 Snowmobile Grant

Summaries

Appendix B

Project Number/Region	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Grant Type	Amount Requested	Total Project Cost
11-NW	Concrete Floor & Drainage System for Groomer Garage	Northwest Colorado Snowmobile Club	Maintenance	\$220,000.00	\$310,000.00
	Concrete floor and drainage system for a groomer garage floor, this is a safety issue due to ice buildup and meltdown on current dirt floor.				
12-Statewide	Safety/Marketing Trailer	Colorado Snowmobile Association	Equipment	\$21,624.00	\$21,624.00
	Purchase an enclosed trailer for use during statewide outreach and safety events.				

Appendix C

2023-2024 Score, Rank & Funding List

App #	Grant Applicant	Project	Funding Request	Bill Rexford	Ron Spencer	Dennis Lynton	Ray Doble	Ross Munzik	Tom Carl	Mark Hollingshead	Ken Kifiker	Luke Svere	Tappan Brown	Randy Engle	Josh Stroudt	Janelle Kukuk	Average Score	Recommended Funding
				DIST 1	DIST 2	DIST 3	DIST 5	DIST 6	DIST 7	DIST 8	DIST 9	CPW- NE Region	CPW -SE Region	CPW- NW Region	CPW- SW Region	STC Rep		
8	White River Snowmobile Club	Replacement Groomer	\$ 30,000.00	88	90	93	89	93	87	90	94	92	88	95	91	93	91.00	\$ 30,000.00
9	Summit Snow Riderz	Maintenance	\$ 12,000.00	87	86	92	84	R	88	92	93	87	91	90	91	90	89.25	\$ 12,000.00
12	CSA	Safety/Marketing Trailer	\$ 21,624.00	90	87	88	89	85	94	90	95	84	87	85	89	R	88.58	\$ 21,624.00
5	Rifle Snowmobile Club	Groomer Purchase	\$ 70,000.00	84	85	84	85	91	85	88	90	85	89	85	88	92	87.00	\$ 70,000.00
11	Northwest Coloado	Concrete Floor & Drainage System for Groomer Garage	\$ 5,315.00	88	R	92	85	85	91	80	93	86	89	91	90	74	87.00	\$ 5,315.00
10	Northwest Coloado	Summer Maintenance	\$ 14,893.00	87	R	92	85	85	89	72	94	86	90	92	90	78	86.67	\$ 14,893.00
1	Delta SnoKrusers	Groomer Purchase	\$ 150,000.00	81	74	89	83	78	83	88	80	82	85	81	84	80	82.15	\$ 150,000.00
2	Grand Lake Trail Grooming	Groomer Purchase	\$ 175,000.00	78	84	84	80	75	84	60	75	83	80	87	86	92	80.62	\$ 175,000.00
3	Gunnison County Snow Trackers	Groomer Purchase	\$ 220,000.00	68	74	88	84	71	86	63	89	80	86	84	87	85	80.38	\$ -
7	North Routt Snow Riders	Groomer Purchase	\$ 214,500.00	72	76	77	83	71	82	78	80	80	81	82	83	85	79.23	\$ -
4	North Fork Snowmobile club	Groomer Purchase	\$ 75,000.00	66	70	67	82	84	82	83	80	76	85	82	80	70	77.46	\$ 57,376.00
6	Silverton Snowmobile Club	Groomer Purchase	\$ 100,000.00	62	75	69	84	71	81	75	75	77	82	80	81	82	76.46	\$ -
Total			\$ 1,088,332.00														\$ 536,208.00	



Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Snowmobile Program Grant Recommendations 2023-2024

