



Pioneer's Redefined: West End Trails Master Development Plan

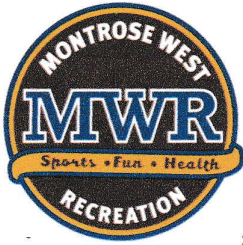
GRANT APPLICATION CHECK LIST

MANDATORY:

- Signed letter of resolution from Governing Body
- Exhibit A - Application
- Exhibit B - Budget (Unprotected Excel CPW form)
- Environmental Forms (not required for Regional Trails Planning grants)
- Maps/Photographs/Graphics (5 page max, pdf, letter sized pages)
- Letters of Support (maximum of 5). No letters from clubs or groups specifically working on the project
- Project can be completed within 2.5 years from receiving grant
- Required MATCH funding is secured, including CASH match funds
- CPW District Wildlife Manager has been contacted and informed of construction projects by July 1st. Note that ALL projects will be reviewed by CPW for wildlife impacts
- (Construction only) Project area is owned by public land agency or has easement that designates the area to be open to public outdoor recreation for at least 25 years
- (Construction Only) Formal Environmental Assessment (EA) or NEPA has been completed with final approval for the project area (federal lands only).

ADDITIONAL PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

- Youth Corps or youth organization will be used on the project (name of organization)
- Volunteers will be utilized on the project (name organization) MWR- Montrose West Recreation, West End Trails Alliance (WETA), Telluride Foundation VISTA staff



**Montrose West
Recreation, Inc.**

PO Box 281
Nucla, CO 81424
Phone: 970.864.2190

27 July, 2018

To: Colorado Parks and Wildlife
State Trails Program
13787 US Hwy 85 North
Littleton, CO 80125

Re: Resolution Supporting the Application for Funding

Greetings,

Let it be known on this date, the Board of Directors of Montrose West Recreation, Inc. did approve the application for funding through the Colorado Parks and Wildlife State Trails program for a Colorado the Beautiful trails planning grant.

The MWR Board takes administering all grant funds seriously and intends to administer such funds in a financially secure and sound manner.

Thank you for your consideration,

Paul Koski, Board President
Montrose West Recreation, Inc.

MWR Board

Paul Koski, President
Brienne Bonaquista, VP
Allie Sutherland, Secretary
Darcy Weimer, Treasurer
Mike Epright
Melissa Johnson

Paula Brown, E.D.

COLORADO THE BEAUTIFUL REGIONAL TRAILS PLANNING APPLICATION

Applicant or Organization Name: Montrose West Recreation

Mailing Address: PO Box 281, Nucla, CO 81424

Applicant Lead Contact Name: Paul Koski

Title: Board President

Telephone: 970 428-2276

Email: pdkoski@gmail.com

Is this the primary contact for this grant: YES NO

OFFICIAL USE ONLY – DUNS # (IF REQUIRED):

PROJECT MANAGER (this person will have day-to-day responsibility for the project)

Name: Paul Koski

Mailing Address: PO Box 144, Nucla, CO 81424

Telephone: 970 428-2276

Email: pdkoski@gmail.com

PRIMARY PARTNER INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE)

Name: Telluride Foundation

Mailing Address: 220 E Colorado Ave. Suite 106, PO Box 4222, Telluride, CO 81435

Partner Contact Name: April Montgomery

Title: VP Programs

Telephone: 970-728-8717

Email: april@telluridefoundation.org

Is this the primary contact for this grant: YES NO

Project Title: Pioneer’s Redefined: West End Trails Master Development Plan

Grant Request: \$100,000

Required Match: \$30,000

Total Project Cost: \$130,000

Project Description: Please write a 3-4 paragraph description of your project and the expected accomplishments. Be sure to include Who, What, When, and Where.) **This is your scope of work.** (This section is not the place to talk about the project background, the benefits, the funding, or anything other than the actual work to be accomplished. Please address this information in question #1 of the Selection Criteria.)

WHO? Who will complete the work and who will oversee the project? Provide a description of your community or organization, highlighting its mission and purpose.

WHAT? Explain what you are going to do or accomplish. What is the goal or the reason for your project? Break down the project into a list of specific activities to be completed. These should be quantifiable items that correspond to the categories on your budget page. Include quantity or quality as part of your description of work to be performed. How long? How many? How many feet? How many miles? What materials will be used? Is a specific standard or guideline being used?

WHERE? Explain in detail the location of your project. Where is the project located? What county? What National Forest/ BLM Field Office? Provide the names of the trail(s) or trail system and where the work will be performed? What agency manages or is responsible for the land the project is on?

DEFINITIONS? Please define all acronyms and specialized terms that are used in your project description.

Formed in 1979, Montrose West Recreation, Inc. (MWR) is one of the oldest nonprofits serving the isolated West End of Montrose County. MWR's mission statement is: "to assist with and coordinate for all citizens of West Montrose County a variety of recreational opportunities." MWR fills the gap that a normal "recreation district" would serve. Nucla resident and MWR Board President, Paul Koski will oversee the project.

MWR will work with local elected officials, a meeting facilitator, and all trail user stakeholders to create a West End Trails Master Development Plan. The plan will focus around six unique areas between Norwood, Nucla, and Naturita. These areas include Uncompahgre Field Office-BLM lands, such as Norwood's Burn Canyon, Nucla North, Nucla East, the Naturita Flattops, and the Sawtooth area to the west of Naturita, as well as Busted Arm area near Norwood that is on US Forest Service land. These areas are in the West End of Montrose County and the West End of San Miguel County.

Small group meetings will take place with each of the individual trail user groups to determine specific current and future needs plus gather ideas for better trail user experiences, including existing trail improvements, new conceptual trails, signage, facilities, and other infrastructure improvements. Once conceptual plans are drawn, meetings will then take place with the appropriate land managers and CPW officials to identify problem areas or areas of critical concern. Any known archeologically sensitive sites will be identified. This process will allow all stakeholders to provide information while the actual planning maps are drawn and modified. Maintenance of the entire trail network will be addressed within the master plan, including scope and schedule of maintenance tasks and potential volunteer and hired trail crew funding options.

The West End Trails Master Plan will then be presented to the land agencies with the intent of moving forward with trail corridor studies in order to satisfy NEPA rules and the creation of the final Environmental Assessment document.

LAND OWNERSHIP

1. Provide the name/s of the property owners: BLM- Uncompahgre Field Office / Norwood USFS
 2. The trail corridor is controlled by: Fee Simple Lease Easement License Right-of-Way Other: X

USER INFORMATION (Please check all that apply)

Hiking X	Motorcycling X	Equestrian X
Walking X	Four-Wheeling X	ADA Accessible
Running X	All-Terrain Vehicle X	Other
Skateboarding	Snowmobiling X	Other
In-Line Skating	Snowshoeing X	Other
Biking X	X-Country Skiing X	Other

TRAIL SURFACE

Asphalt	Concrete	Other
Natural X	Crusher Fines	Other

PROJECT LOCATION (For multiple project sites attach a separate list.)

Nearest Town or City: See separate List
 County: Montrose and San Miguel Counties
 Latitude & Longitude Coordinates: see list
 State Senate District #: 6
 State Representative District #: 58

Acreage of new trailheads		Miles of trail grooming	
Miles of new trail construction		Miles of trail being planned	
Miles of trail maintenance		Miles of trail reroute	
Miles of trail reconstruction		Miles of inter-connecting trail	
Miles of trail to be signed		Other	
Miles of trail restoration		Other	

WEST END TRAILS MASTER DEVELOPMENT PLAN

1. **Busted Arm Area** - Norwood USFS
 Nearest Town: Norwood
 County: San Miguel
 Location: T43N, R13W, Sec. 10,15,14,22, & 23

State Senate District # 6 State Representative District # 58
Miles of trails being planned: 10 miles
Miles of trail reroute: 0
Miles of inter-connecting trail: 1.25 miles
Acreage of trailhead planned: 1/2 acre

2. **Burn Canyon Area** - BLM - Uncompaghre Field Office

Nearest Town: Norwood
County: San Miguel
Location: T45N, R14W, Sec. 23, 24,34,& 35
State Senate District # 6 State Representative District # 58
Miles of trails being planned: 10 miles
Miles of trail reroute: 0
Miles of inter-connecting trail:
Acreage of trailhead planned: 1/2 acre

3. **Nucla North Area** - BLM - Uncompaghre Field Office

Nearest Town: Nucla
County: Montrose
Location: T47N, R15W, Sec. 29, 28, 31, 32, & 33
State Senate District # 6 State Representative District # 58
Miles of trails being planned: 12 miles
Miles of trail reroute: 1.25 miles
Miles of inter-connecting trail: 0
Acreage of trailhead planned: n/a

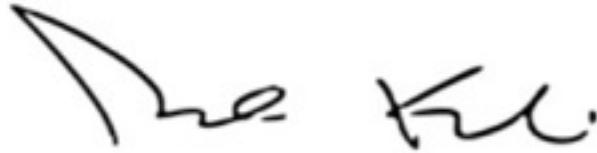
4. **Nucla East Area** - BLM - Uncompaghre Field Office

Nearest Town: Nucla
County: Montrose
Location: T46N, R14W, Sec. 4, 3, & 2 T47N, R15W, Sec. 34, 35, 27, 26, & 23
State Senate District # 6 State Representative District # 58
Miles of trails being planned: 9
Miles of trail reroute: 0
Miles of inter-connecting trail:
Acreage of trailhead planned: 1/2 acre

5. **Naturita Flat tops Area** - BLM - Uncompaghre Field Office

Nearest Town: Naturita
County: Montrose
Location: T46N, R16W, Sec. 36, 35, 25 26 24, & 23
State Senate District # 6 State Representative District # 58
Miles of trails being planned: 6 miles
Miles of trail reroute:
Miles of inter-connecting trail: 3/4 miles
Acreage of trailhead planned: 1/2 acre

6. **Sawtooth Area** - BLM - Uncompaghre Field Office
Nearest Town: Naturita
County: Montrose
Location: T46N, R16W, Sec. 10, 9, 8, 17, 16, & 15
State Senate District # 6 State Representative District # 58
Miles of trails being planned: 14 miles
Miles of trail reroute:
Miles of inter-connecting trail: 2 miles
Acreage of trailhead planned: 1 acre



Applicant Authorized Signature: _____ **Date:** 31 July 2018

(From Applicant Organization)

BLM-UFO

Land Agency Authorized Signature: _____

(From project location land agency, if different from applicant)

S. Edward Franz, acting UFO Manager

Date: 7/30/18

EXHIBIT A

Norwood- USFS

Land Agency Authorized Signature: _____

(From project location land agency, if different from applicant)

Norwood District Ranger

Date: 7/31/18

All applicants must respond to the following selection criteria questions in **nine pages or less in 12 point font with 1" page margins**. Answers can be longer than one page, as long as the total number of pages is less than or equal to nine.

This application will be scored on a 100 point basis. The maximum number of points that can be awarded for each question is shown in parentheses. Projects that make it beyond the initial review will be scored by outside reviewers, State Trails, GOCO, and DNR staff. Projects will be ranked according to reviewer and staff scores.

Failure to provide a response to any question (unless otherwise noted) will reduce your project's score. Please read and understand all application questions prior to answering. Reference all attachments.

1. COMMUNITY NEED & BENEFIT (20 points)

The West End communities of Nucla, Naturita, Norwood and Paradox are all too familiar with difficult economic periods, given the historical boom and bust cycles associated with one of the region's largest economic drivers—mining (uranium and coal). The area was once a uranium mining and milling hub for the Atomic Energy Commission's Manhattan Project, and later for the nuclear power industry. The West End is facing an economic crisis with the imminent closure of the Nucla Tri State Power Generation facility and the recent closure of New Horizon Coal Mine. These jobs were and are the primary economic drivers for this region, and the economic loss could permanently affect the region in a manner that is unrecoverable.

Over the past year and a half, the West End has conducted comprehensive strategic planning for economic diversification, focused on expanding the tourism and outdoor recreation industry, developing opportunities for related ancillary businesses, and supporting business expansion and start-up companies. The West End is focused on economic diversification, and all projects and initiatives revolve around leveraging available resources and economic strengths and opportunities to ensure diversification occurs. There is strong community leadership and support from town and county officials to ensure that projects related to economic diversification come to fruition. These projects include trail development, tourism marketing, and branding the area for outdoor recreation.

An important factor in MWR's desire to create a regional plan for trail development is to support the economic diversification around outdoor recreation and tourism. The plan will include community connectivity with trailheads close to the towns of Norwood, Nucla, Naturita, and Naturita's new River Park Development. Because the community is already accustomed to taking ownership of similar projects, like the strategic planning for economic diversification, as well as other GOCO planning grants, the community is primed to provide public comment. During the planned stakeholders meetings hosted by project administrators and a facilitator, the community will engage in the trail planning process.

The community health benefits of incorporating trailheads near West End communities will be significant. The current opportunities for outdoor recreation in the West End are limited to a variety of challenging terrain, or terrain that is typically for motorized users with limited access. Expanding oppor-

tunities and access to trail systems in the West End will improve health equity of these marginalized communities. The rate of students relying on Free and Reduced Lunch in the West End Public Schools District consistently hovers around 60%. Helping students to access recreational opportunities, enjoy public lands, and learn to become stewards of the public lands in their own backyard will improve their quality of life. “Family friendly” trails that cover easier and moderate terrain will be included in the planning process and will encourage the community to become more active.

2. URGENCY (5 points)

It is vital to the future of the West End to undertake this planning effort immediately. The West End is facing the closure of the Tri-State power plant by 2022, and the New Horizon coal mine has already closed. The power plant and the coal mine are the two largest employers in the region, and with their closure, the West End is estimated to lose 75% of its tax base. At this time, the West End of Montrose County is faced with the loss of 125 high-paying jobs (out of a region of less than 2,700 residents). With the loss of these jobs, it is anticipated that the median income of the region will go from \$55,363 to less than \$39,000 per year. Nearly 20% of the population of this region is already considered to be below the poverty line in Colorado, and unemployment rates are already twice that of the rest of the state.

The West End Public School District has implemented a 4-day school week, and students and families carry the burden of under-resourced public education and amenities. The transition to a sustainable economy is urgent and must happen before the region sees the biggest amount of job loss since the price of uranium plummeted in the 1980s. With such a vast expanse of public lands, existing trails and old two track “roads,” the West End is a logical place for trail developments and outdoor recreation as an economic driver.

Project organizers hope to replicate the model created in Moab, Utah with its Trails Mix Group. In a ten-year time frame, from 2006 to 2016, the Moab community was able to plan, satisfy NEPA rules, and work with Public Lands agencies to create over 150 miles of new multi-use trails. Trail development takes time, patience, and money, and we feel the time to start is NOW.

3. CUMULATIVE IMPACTS (15 points)

This plan focuses on six specific areas for trail development, totaling approximately 22 square miles. The areas that are the focus of trail development lie within two counties, San Miguel and Montrose and will primarily impact the communities of Norwood, Naturita and Nucla. This project requires communication, collaboration, and support of two counties, three town municipalities, the Norwood Ranger District of the US Forest Service, and the Uncompahgre Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management based in Montrose 90 miles away.

Multiple trail systems will be evaluated and considered in a comprehensive plan as most of the lands proposed for development fall under the management of the UFO-BLM and a portion in San Miguel County is in under US Forest Service management. The Trails Master Plan will strive to include some interconnectivity, with potential proposals to join Nucla and Naturita with a multi-use trail and link Nucla/Naturita to Norwood with a link over Mailbox Park or to the south over Broad Canyon.

There is currently 75 miles of single-track trail in the entire West End used by mountain bikers, equestrians, hikers and motorized trail bikes. There is also close to 1,000 miles of two-track trails, in various condition, used for motorized off-highway vehicles. The six areas for suggested trail development are focused on expanding existing and creating new trails. The proposed plan for development will utilize some of these trails to create loop systems that connect to the nearby towns. The Master Trails Plan will prioritize building new trails using existing routes to limit environmental impact where practical. The existing two-track trails require signage and targeted maintenance if they are to be promoted and marketed to a variety of trail users.

Long term maintenance of trails in the West End region is less intensive than in other areas of Colorado. The high desert climate requires a lower level of maintenance, based on environmental, vegetation, weather, and soil properties. Windfall of trees across the trails is minimal, while much of the soil types making up the trail surface shed water easily on a well-designed trail. Volunteer Service Agreements with the Forest Service and BLM will be established to designate different trails groups and local governments as responsible for specific trails. Creating a rotation schedule for maintenance and agreements with organizations such as West End Trails Alliance and Tabeguache Trail Riders will ensure that long term maintenance occurs.

4. WILDLIFE & NATURAL RESOURCES (10 points)

The planning process will require close partnership with the Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Trails Coordinator of the Southwest Region, Josh Stoudt, and the District Wildlife Manager, Tony Bonacquista, to ensure the protection of wildlife and recognition of natural resource concerns. In the planning process thus far, Stoudt, Bonacquista, and Montrose West Recreation representatives have met to discuss involvement in the planning process at different phases.

The regional planning group, made up of representatives from Montrose West Recreation, will work with CPW to closely consider their wildlife maps showing winter range, severe winter range, calving grounds, grouse lands, migration routes, and other wildlife and habitat concerns. Additionally, CPW is aware of wildlife concerns that are not represented on maps, including elk migration over the winter months, which will need to be discussed and considered so as not to create potential conflict by pushing elk into the towns' boundaries.

By working with the CPW District Wildlife Manager, gathering input from CPW at each step of the planning process, and operating with transparency, the planning process will respect wildlife and natural resources of the area. Montrose West Recreation has six areas under consideration for trail development, which will be presented on a map to CPW to gather initial feedback and make any necessary changes. Part of the planning process would include laying out the trails with the District Wildlife Manager by walking them and searching for any problems that would restrict connectivity across the landscape or create habitat fragmentation. Although it is difficult for CPW and the District Wildlife Manager to comment on specific restrictions and considerations at this early stage in the planning process, CPW and MWR will be communicating during each phase, and MWR will defer to the recommendations of CPW.

The areas surrounding Nucla and Naturita are well known for the prehistoric native hunting sites with many known camp and tool site locations. Working with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and a hired Archeological Consulting firm will be necessary so that discovered historic sites are evaluated and appropriate adjustments to trail corridors are taken.

5. COLLABORATION (15 points)

This project represents a unique and innovative approach to master development planning, as it falls within a broader initiative to support outdoor recreation and tourism as an economic driver in a coal-impacted region. It is also unique in that the overall Trails Master Plan looks at six distinct areas for development, each offering a different kind of trail user experience with the potential for a high degree of positive impact on the neighboring community. The stakeholders involved in this project include local trail user groups: West End Trails Alliance, Tabeguache Trail Riders, Montrose West Recreation, Norwood Parks and Recreation District, as well as economic and other partners in the region, including the West End Economic Development Corporation (WEEDC), Telluride Foundation, Region 10, RPI Consulting, Public Land Solutions, local municipalities, county governments and the federal land agencies. Many of these partners have already made significant financial contributions to the planning process by supporting and funding RPI Consulting's small business and community survey done in the West End in 2017. This regional trail planning effort was determined to be a priority project of the RPI Consulting Economic Development Strategy for the region.

This project also represents a private-public partnership between the Telluride Foundation, the Trust for Public Lands, and MWR. As private funders with a vested interest in the vitality of the community of the West End and the protection and utilization of the public lands, the Telluride Foundation and Trust for Public Lands have made financial commitments to the planning process, as well as offered GIS and mapping expertise. The Trust for Public Lands will support the mapping process, after MWR and Public Land Solutions have gathered sufficient feedback from the community and CPW District Wildlife Manager. MWR and WEEDC have the vision for this project but recognize the need for partnering with professional organizations and, above all, cooperating with the federal land agencies, private land owners, and CPW.

6. IMPLEMENTATION (15 points)

As part of the planning project, several components necessary for trail construction and implementation will occur.

- 1. Stakeholder and community meetings to gather feedback. Use this feedback to make changes to the conceptual maps and proposed trails.**
- 2. Communication with public land agencies, CPW District Wildlife Manager, town and county officials.**
- 3. Archeological studies of the areas proposed for trail development. Incorporate wildlife and habitat concerns and results of the archeological study in the mapping project and the final locations proposed for trail development.**
- 4. Draft plan to be submitted for approval of the public land agencies that includes:**
 - a. GIS map of the region**
 - b. Reports on stakeholder suggestions and public comment**

- c. Comments on potential user conflict**
- d. Archeological and wildlife concerns**
- e. Long term maintenance plan and commitment from groups responsible for maintenance**
- f. Rough plan for implementation, including prioritization and phasing of construction projects**

5. Prepared to begin the NEPA process with approval of public land agencies.

This plan will be comprehensive and include long term construction and maintenance plans. It will also include the vision and desire of all user groups in the region, which will help the BLM and Forest Service by eliminating the potential for overlapping or conflicting plans and proposals. This planning process will produce a project, in which trail corridors are identified and ready for approval by the land managers.

When the implementation and construction phase begin, trail construction can occur quickly because the project will already have the support of the community. Throughout this process the CPW and District Wildlife Manager will be heavily involved in decisions around trail routes. The final step will be to gain approval from the BLM and Forest Service.

Funds for construction and implementation will be accessible through GOCO, the State Trails Program, larger corporate outdoor recreation businesses such as REI and KEEN and some federal pass through funds; we believe this project will be successful in obtaining such grant funds because there are multiple partners involved in the project and there will be an approved plan in place. The Telluride Foundation, the Trust for Public Lands, the towns of Nucla, Naturita, Norwood, and San Miguel and Montrose counties all understand that outdoor recreation and tourism is a vital link for economic development in the region.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT & INVOLVEMENT (10 points)

Receiving support of all user groups in the West End communities and capturing public comment early on will be the most important objectives of MWR's planning process. Much of the groundwork for connecting with a broad variety of user groups has already been laid out due to the Telluride Foundation's efforts to coordinate regional trails groups. The Telluride Foundation has hosted three regional trails meetings with over 50 attendees, including motorized and non-motorized user groups from Rico, Telluride, Norwood, Nucla and Naturita, Delta, and Montrose. The BLM and USFS offices in the region, as well as town and county officials, have been in attendance. The existing lines of communication with this regional group will serve MWR's planning efforts by making it easier to connect with community stakeholders because they are already engaged in an ongoing conversation about trails in the region.

The regional trails meetings also help the planning process because they have been an attempt to identify potential user conflicts between motorized and non-motorized groups. The public lands in the West End region are not designated for specific motorized or non-motorized use. Because the existing trails span across an area that is so large, there is no existing conflict between trail users. In fact, the community claims that different user groups are excited to see one another out on the trails enjoying the public lands, because it is so rare to see another person in the West End back country.

MWR does not anticipate opposition to this plan or its implementation because it is an objective of the West End's economic recovery priority projects determined through a year-long community stakeholder and small business outreach process. The community and local businesses determined that it was a priority for the West End to be recognized as an outdoor recreation and tourism destination as a sustainable path towards economic development.

MWR plans to hire a facilitator to help it engage a broad range of stakeholders. The facilitator and local representatives will reach out to stakeholder groups, including non-motorized trail users (West End Trails Alliance), Norwood Parks and Recreation District, motorized users (Thunder Mountain Wheelers), equestrian users, ATV and side-by-side users, ranchers, fishing groups, Rimrocker Historical Society, West End Economic Development Corporation, Nucla-Naturita Area Chamber of Commerce, and town and county officials.

8. PLANNING PROCESS & OUTCOME (10 points)

Objective I: Gather feedback from stakeholders in the community, including elected officials through small group meetings and encourage their engagement in the planning process.

Tasks: 1. MWR volunteers and project coordinator will draft conceptual maps of the six areas proposed for trail development, including Broken Arm (USFS), Burn Canyon (BLM), Nucla North (BLM), Nucla East (BLM), Naturita Flattops (BLM), and the Sawtooth to the west of Naturita (BLM).

2. Hire a facilitator for stakeholder meetings.

3. MWR and project coordinator will meet with elected officials and community leaders to gather their support. Encourage an elected official, or another champion of the project, to host a stakeholder meeting with different user groups, town and county officials, and the region's Economic Recovery Coordinator.

4. Host a series of community meetings, hosted by an elected official, where MWR will present the conceptual map and ask for feedback from the community.

End Products:

a. Number of attendees at community meetings.

b. Minutes of the meeting including comments from all stakeholders.

c. Refine map and report on how the map and plan has changed to reflect stakeholder involvement.

d. Plan has limited conflict among user groups and government agencies.

Objective II: When public land agencies (BLM and Forest Service) and CPW approve of the preliminary map, begin an archeological study of the six areas proposed for trail development.

Tasks: 1. Contract with an archeological consulting firm to complete a study of the regions surrounding all proposed trail routes, and trailhead areas.

2. Communicate with CPW and District Wildlife Manager to incorporate and consider areas of wildlife and habitat concern throughout the archeological study.

3. Include the Rimrocker Historical Society (based in Naturita) and other local and state-level historical organizations (SHPO) in the discovery and reporting process.

4. Make any necessary changes to trail proposals or eliminate trails in areas that are discovered to have archeological or biological concerns.

End Products:

- a. A report of findings of archeological and biological concerns on or near the area for proposed trail development.
- b. Present findings to CPW, District Wildlife Manager, BLM, Forest Service, Rimrocker Historical Society, and other historical organizations.

Objective III: Using GIS systems, create a comprehensive, working map of the proposed areas that reflects feedback from stakeholder groups.

Tasks: 1. Incorporate feedback, concerns, and suggestions that were the result of community meetings and facilitated conversations with MWR, local elected officials, and the archeological study.
2. Work with the Trust for Public Land's GIS/Mapping team based in New Mexico to map the proposed areas for trail development.

End Products:

- a. Detailed, GIS map of six areas proposed for trail development.
- b. Partnership with Trust for Public Land, West End trail user groups, and town municipalities.

Objective IV: Create a detailed implementation plan with phasing and prioritization considerations for construction of proposed trails.

Tasks: 1. Meet with federal land agencies about each of the six areas proposed for trail construction. Discuss the feasibility, challenges, cost, and other factors that may impact the construction projects in each area.

2. Research funding opportunities for construction projects.

3. Prioritize each area for construction as a part of a unique phase. Set reasonable deadlines for completion.

End Products:

- a. Preliminary plan for implementation that includes prioritization and phasing and is supported by federal land agencies.
- b. Preliminary budget for the trail construction and a preliminary plan for securing funding from different sources.

Objective V: Create a preliminary maintenance plan for all new and existing trails in the region.

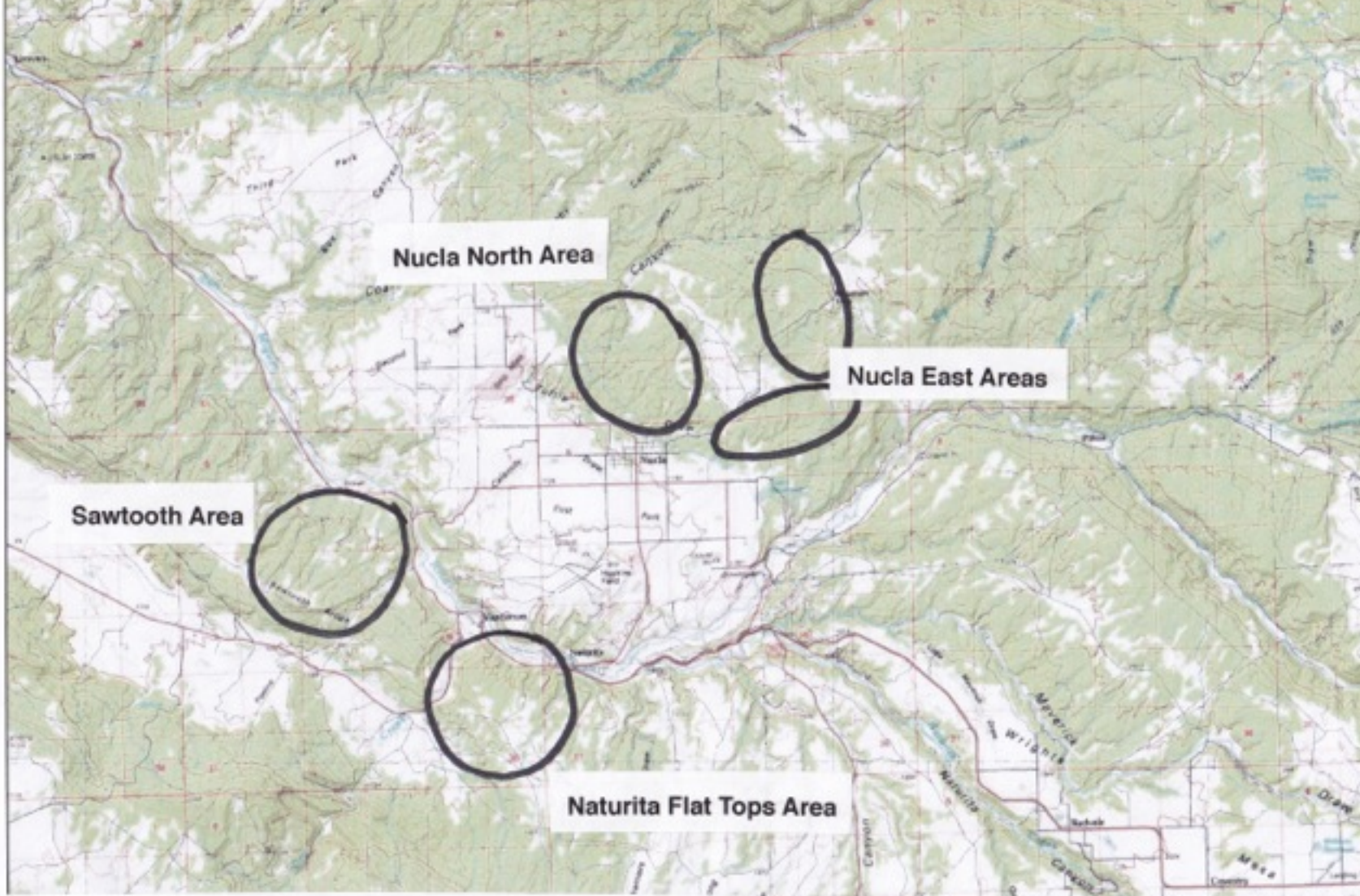
Tasks: 1. Determine who is responsible for maintaining each trail. Trails and regions of responsibility will be separated by land agency and county. Responsibility of maintenance could be delegated to the following partners: Town of Nucla, Town of Naturita, West End Trail Alliance, Tabeguache Trail Riders, Norwood Parks and Recreation District, or Thunder Mountain Wheelers.

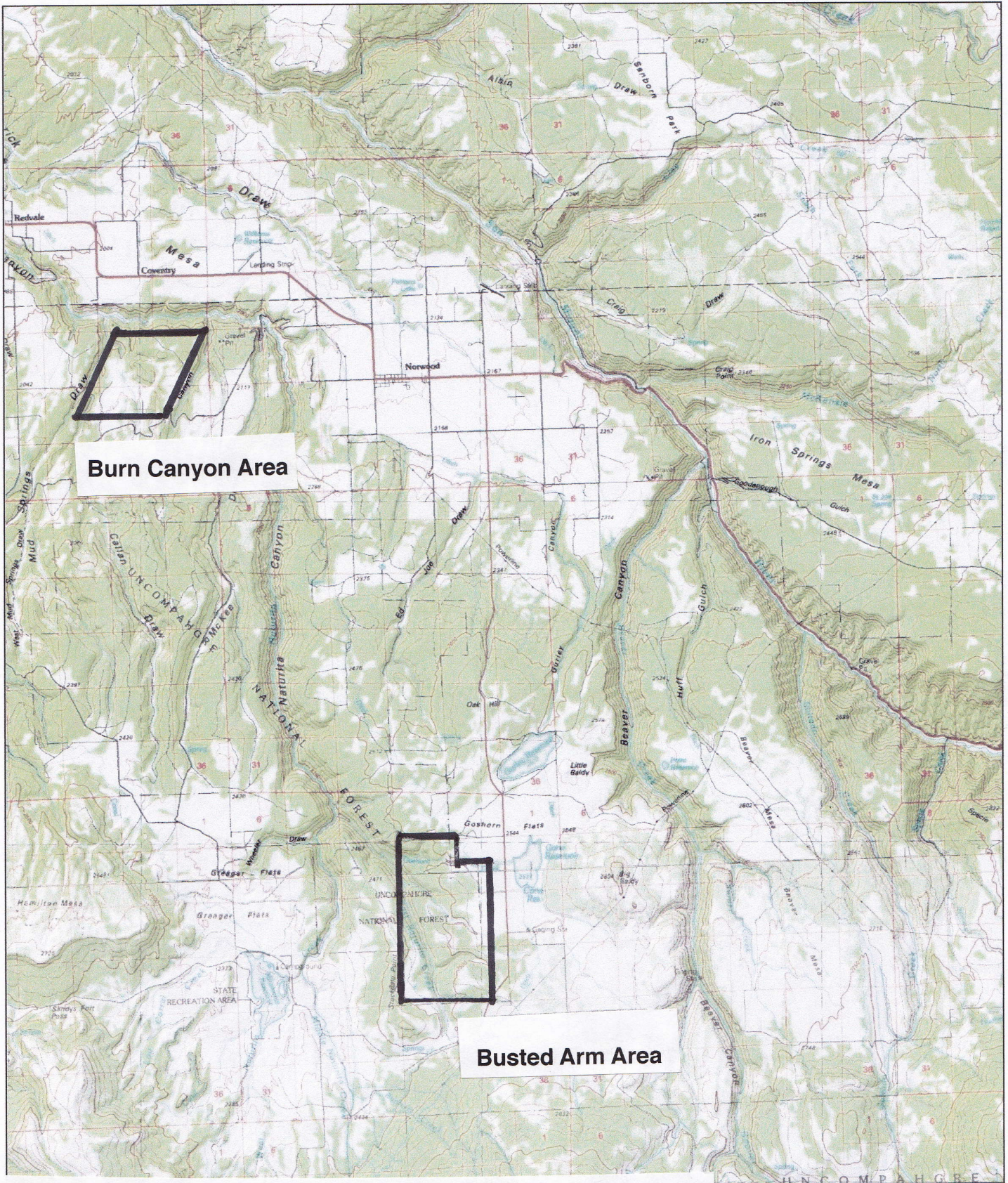
2. Determine the level of maintenance that each trail will require, based on environmental, vegetation, weather, and soil properties of the region.

3. Create a rotational schedule of when and where maintenance crews should work in partnership with federal land agencies.

End Products:

- a. Rotation schedule of maintenance.
- b. Contract or agreement between parties responsible for maintenance.





Pioneers Redefined: West End Trails Master Development Plan

Burn Canyon and Busted Arm Areas

Exhibit B
Budget Form - Project Name:

Pioneer's Redefined: West End Trails Master Plan

SOURCE OF FUNDS	Date Secured				CPW Trails Grant Request [A]	Total Project Match [B]	Total Funding (\$) [C]	
CASH								
Colorado the Beautiful					\$100,000		\$ 100,000.00	
Telluride Foundation	3/12/2018					\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00	
West End COPMOBA	1/20/2018					\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	
							\$ -	
IN-KIND								
Telluride Foundation- VISTA intern	7/27/2018					\$ 2,250.00	\$ 2,250.00	
West End Trails Alliance	7/20/2018					\$ 8,050.00	\$ 8,050.00	
Trust For Public Lands	7/31/2018					\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	
Montrose West Recreation	7/31/2018					\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	
Montrose County	7/31/2018					\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	
Project Coordinator	7/31/2018					\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	
							\$ -	
TOTAL SOURCES OF FUNDS					\$ 100,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 130,000.00	
USE OF FUNDS - CASH								
	Quantity/ Cost per Unit	Qty	Cost	Total	CPW Funds	Total Project Match (\$)	Total Funding (\$)	Balance [should be 0]
Category 1 - Contracted Services								
Facilitator for Stakeholder Meetings (All)	10,000	1	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	0
Archeological Study	\$1000/mile	90	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 90,000.00	\$ -	\$ 90,000.00	0
Project Coordinator	\$32.50/hr	200	\$ 32.50	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 6,500.00	0
				\$ -			\$ -	0
Category 2 - Salary/Wages								
MWR Grant Admin	\$25/hr	40	\$ 25.00	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	0
				\$ -			\$ -	0
Category 3 - Materials/Tools								
Print collateral - maps, images	\$10/map	150	\$ 10.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	0
Stakeholder meeting expenses	\$50/ meeting	20	\$ 50.00	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	0
				\$ -			\$ -	0
				\$ -			\$ -	0
Additional Categories								
				\$ -			\$ -	0
USE OF FUNDS - CASH SUBTOTAL					\$ 100,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 110,000.00	
IN-KIND								
	Quantity/ Cost per Unit	Qty	Cost	Total			Total Funding (\$)	Balance [should be 0]
Category 1 - Contracted Services								
Project Coordinator	700	1	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00		\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	0
				\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	0
Category 2 - Salary/Wages								
Telluride Foundation AmeriCorps VISTA	24.14/ hr	93	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 2,250.00		\$ 2,250.00	\$ 2,250.00	0
Montrose West Recreation	24.14/hr	124	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00		\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	0
				\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	0
Category 3 - Materials/Tools								
				\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	0
Additional Categories								
Trust for Public Lands -GIS mapping	5000	1	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	0
Montrose County- GIS mapping	1000	1	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	0
Trail Recon by local stakeholders	24.14/hr	333	\$ 24.14	\$ 8,050.00		\$ 8,050.00	\$ 8,050.00	0
IN-KIND SUBTOTAL					\$ -	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	
TOTAL PROJECT COST					\$ 100,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 130,000.00	
30% REQUIRED MATCH						\$ 30,000.00		

AREA PHOTOS - West End Trails Master Development Plan

Sawtooth Area



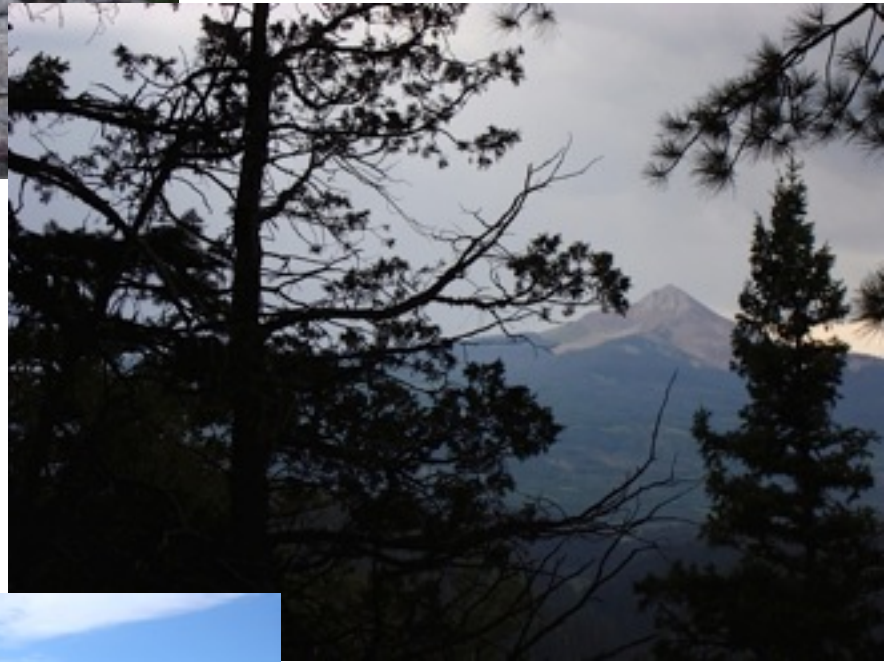
Naturita Flattops



West End Trails Master Development Plan
Nucla North and East Areas



West End Trails Master Development Plan
Busted Arm and Burn Canyon Areas



Burn Canyon Area



Town Council
Dawna Morris, MAYOR
Dorothy Reed, TRUSTEE
Mark Jones, TRUSTEE
Antoinette Carter, TRUSTEE
Paula Brown, TRUSTEE
Wayne Ament, TRUSTEE

320 Main Street
P.O. Box 219
Nucla, CO 81424-0219

(970) 864-7351
(970) 864-7600 fax
TDD-711

July 24, 2018

Colorado Parks and Wildlife
State Trails Program
13787 US Hwy 85 North
Littleton, CO 80125

To Whom it may concern

The Town of Nucla is in support of the Montrose West Recreation's communities stacked loop trail systems. With the pending loss of the TriState's power plant, the community needs this project. The development of Outdoor Recreation will benefit economic diversification.

We believe this will support the community locally and with tourism. Including of all trail user groups, benefits for healthy lifestyles. Proximity and good access to the surrounding public lands. Our unique and beautiful area is an economic asset.

Please support our communities Stacked Loop Trail System.

Sincerely


Dawna Morris, Mayor



July 23, 2018

Pam O'Malley
Non-Motorized Grants Administrator
13787 S Hwy 85
Littleton CO 80125

Dear Ms. O'Malley:

West End Economic Development Corporation (WEEDC) is in great support of Montrose West Recreation's (MWR) application for a Regional Planning Grant through the Colorado the Beautiful Trails Program. MWR, in coordination with the Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service and Colorado Parks and Wildlife, is applying for a regional planning grant to create a master development plan. MWR represents all recreation opportunities for members of the West End. They will be a collaborative leader throughout the planning process to ensure that all trail users and interested parties are heard and their feedback is considered throughout the process.

WEEDC supports this project because it is in direct alignment with the regions priority to build and promote outdoor recreation and tourism as an economic driver. WEEDC, RPI Consulting, and other local leaders in Nucla and Naturita worked for over a year to develop a strategic plan to assist the community in its transition from an extraction-reliant community towards more sustainable opportunities. To this end, this transition will require the construction and support of trails.

This region of Colorado is still largely "undiscovered" and with significant natural assets such as extraordinary landscapes, public lands (over 75% is public lands), mountain and road biking, hiking, fishing, big game hunting, camping, ATV and jeeping - this area is poised for significant development. The residents are preparing for a shift in economic direction, and new businesses are being developed to support tourism activities.

WEEDC will help to ensure the success of this project by attending community stakeholder meetings, provide feedback on the planning and mapping process, and promote MWR stakeholder meetings through our social media.

We hope the committee will look favorably on the request submitted by Montrose West Recreation. Please contact me at talliesandtasks@gmail.com or (970) 428-2326 with any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Aimee Tooker – President of the Board of Directors

P.O. Box 645
217 W. Main Street
Naturita, CO 81422

weedc@chooswestend.org
www.chooswestend.org



Norwood Park and Recreation District
1555 Summit Avenue, Norwood, CO 81423
(970) 327-0148
www.norwoodparkandrec.org

Pam O'Malley
Non-Motorized Grants Administrator
13787 S. Hwy. 85
Littleton, CO 80125

July 30, 2018

Dear Pam O'Malley,

Norwood Park and Recreation District (NPRD) supports the Montrose West Recreation's (MWR) application for a Regional Planning Grant through the Colorado the Beautiful Trails Program. NPRD used similar grants from CPW and BLM to create a plan for the Burn Canyon Trails located about 5 miles SW of Norwood. These grants were critical to getting these new trails included in the BLM travel management plan. As a direct result of these planning grants NPRD has facilitated the construction of 14 miles of non-motorized single track trails with 9 miles of motorized single track to still be constructed.

Norwood Park and Recreation District considers Montrose West Recreation a strong partner in the construction, maintenance and promotion of the Norwood area trails. NPRD plans to continue to work closely with MWR to help facilitate the planning and construction process of trails in the Norwood area. These would include the completion of the Burn Canyon Trails, expansion of trails in the Busted Arm Draw area and any other new trails proposed by this planning process.

Please contact me at 970-729-1747 with any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Kelvin Verity

President

Norwood Park and Recreation District



July 27, 2018

Pam O'Malley
Non-Motorized Grants Administrator
13787 S. Hwy. 85
Littleton, CO 80125

Dear Ms. O'Malley:

The Telluride Foundation supports the Montrose West Recreation's (MWR) application for a Regional Planning Grant through the Colorado the Beautiful Trails Program. The Telluride Foundation is committed to providing \$9,000 in cash match to support this project; these funds can be used for contractors and or planning studies. We also have an AmeriCorps Vista Volunteer, who will dedicate .15 FTE to this project, which will be an in-kind contribution of \$1,950.

The Foundation is committed to supporting regional trails groups in San Miguel, Ouray and west Montrose counties, as well as the Town of Rico. We have been hosting quarterly meetings to bring together regional trails groups, including all types of trail users, town and county officials, and federal land agency officials. This existing collaborative trail-user group will help to ensure the success of the MWR planning process.

The Telluride Foundation has been working closely with MWR, West End Economic Development Corporation, RPI Consulting and other local leaders to develop a strategic plan to assist the community in transitioning their economy away from resource extraction, towards more sustainable opportunities. The two largest employers in the region, the Tri-State coal power plant and the New Horizon coal mine, will be closing by 2022, and taking away approximately 75% of the region's tax base.

Working with an economic development consulting group RPI Consulting, the community in Nucla and Naturita met multiple times to develop a strategic plan of priority projects. One of the priority projects determined by the communities is to make Nucla and Naturita recognized as an outdoor recreation and tourism destination. The West End is a rugged, remote area with hundreds of miles of existing trails, located between the extremely popular tourism destinations of Telluride, Colorado and Moab, Utah. Almost three quarters of the region is made up of public lands with opportunities for mountain and road biking, hiking, fishing, big game hunting, camping, ATV, and jeeping, and much more. The beauty of the West End lies in its untouched, unknown, and seemingly endless public lands and natural landscapes. A comprehensive, regional trails plan for the public lands is necessary to support the vitality of the West End in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Major", written in a cursive style.

Paul Major, President & CEO

TOWN OF NATURITA

P.O. BOX 505, 222 EAST MAIN ST.
NATURITA COLO. 81422
(970)865-2286 FAX: (970)865-2815



July 23, 2018

Colorado Parks and Wildlife
State Trails Program
13787 US Hwy 85 North
Littleton, CO 80125

To Whom it May Concern;

The Town of Naturita would like to lend it's support to Montrose West Recreation in applying for a Colorado the Beautiful Planning Grant. The stacked loop trail systems are extremely popular in other communities and would add a much needed dimension to our area. The Town of Naturita is actively pursuing other avenues to generate resources for the impending loss of tax revenue from the mine and power plant closures. One of those is tourism and recreation. We have received a GOCO planning Grant for a Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The grant Montrose West Recreation is seeking from you will dovetail perfectly with our future ideas for the town.

There was a recent study done by Outside regarding America's Smartest towns, Best Places to Live issue and number 3 on the list says to: Exploit Natural Resources, invest in trails, water parks or other outdoor activities and rebrand as an adventure hub to bolster economies. The West End of Montrose County is ideal for these adventures. The scenery, isolation, public land access, existing mining and ranching roads and diverse terrain are unique to The West End.

The stacked loop trail system will be used by many different groups. If the thousands of tourists that are driving by Town Hall in Naturita every day during the summer, had a place to get out and take a short ride or hike, then go get an ice cream or dinner, everyone wins. The locals could use the trails year round for fitness, horseback riding and sightseeing.

We strongly urge you to award the Colorado the Beautiful planning grant to MWR. We are proud to consider ourselves one of the more beautiful areas in the state and are anxious to show it off.

On Behalf of The Board of Trustees,
Sincerely;

X

John D. Riley
Mayor