

# Non-Motorized Trails Stewardship Program



2023 PILOT PROGRAM APPLICANT INTEREST FORM

Submit this completed form to be combined with a Non-Motorized Maintenance Application to [trails@state.co.us](mailto:trails@state.co.us) by October 3, 2023.

## APPLICANT

Type  Land Manager  Non-Profit

Organization

Postal address

City State CO ZIP Code

Contact name

Contact email Phone

## FUNDING

Grant request for 2 - 4 person crews  
(max \$75,000) \$

Grant request for 5-8 person crews  
(max \$150,000) \$

Match (min. 25% of grant request) \$

Total \$

## STEWARDSHIP ELIGIBILITY

Why is this program a good fit for your organization?

## STEWARDSHIP WORK PLAN

Describe the type of trail stewardship and the anticipated work plan your organization would perform if funded by this opportunity.

## STEWARDSHIP CREW

Describe your current ability to hire and support trail crews who perform non-motorized trail maintenance.

## AREA OF IMPACT

Describe the importance of the trail system that would be positively impacted by this work to both the local community and the State of Colorado.

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# Application form



NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION - MAINTENANCE

## PROJECT BASICS

Title **VVMTA Trail Conservation Crew**

Type  Construction  Planning  
 Maintenance  Support

Phased project  Yes  No If yes, Phase # \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

Brief summary

The VVMTA's Trail Conservation Crew (TCC) consists of seasonal full-time crew members who perform general trail stewardship and maintenance projects on all public lands in Eagle County.

Grant request	\$ 63,700.00	Grant ratio <sup>1</sup>	26 %
Match	\$ 182,800.00	Match ratio	74 %
Total	\$ 246,500.00	Total	100 %

## APPLICANT

Type  Local  County  Federal  Tribal  
 Recreation and Metro Districts  Non-Profit

Organization **Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance**

Postal address **PO Box 3986**

City **Avon** State **CO** ZIP Code **81620**

General email **ernest@vvmta.org** UEI # \_\_\_\_\_

Lead contact **Ernest Saeger** Title **Executive Director**

Telephone **(607) 778-0337** Email **ernest@vvmta.org**

Project manager **Sam Chipkin** Title **Trail Operations Manager**

Telephone **(917) 349-0973** Email **sammy@vvmta.org**

## PARTNER OR CO-SPONSOR

Organization \_\_\_\_\_  N/A

Postal address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State **CO** ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>1</sup> Grant ratio = grant request / total. Match ratio = match / total.

PROPERTY			
Nearest town or city	Edwards	County	Eagle County
Latitude/Longitude	39.64414, -106.59397	Congressional district	2
Name of property owner	USFS, BLM, Eagle County, Town of Eagle, Town of Minturn, and other		
Trail Corridor controlled by	<input type="checkbox"/> Fee simple	<input type="checkbox"/> Lease	<input type="checkbox"/> Easement
	<input type="checkbox"/> License	<input type="checkbox"/> ROW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Public Land Manager

TRAIL			
Uses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hiking, walking, running	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biking	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equestrian
E-bikes allowed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Snow sports (non-motorized)
	<input type="checkbox"/> ADA Accessible		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:		
Estimate percentage by type (e.g.,) 50% hiking, etc.	100% non-motorized multi-use trails		
Surface	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natural	<input type="checkbox"/> Crusher fines	<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt
	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:		
Size of new trailhead (sq. ft.)	Length of trail being planned		
Length of new trail construction <sup>2</sup>	Length of trail maintenance		25 miles
Length of inter-connecting trail	Length of trail reroute		4 miles
Length of decommissioned trail	3 miles	Length of restored trail	
Length of trail to be signed	Length of trail grooming		
Other:			
Estimated amount of paid crew hours:	Grant	2,000	Match: 5,000

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

On behalf of the applicant entity, I certify to the best of my knowledge that the information in this application is true and correct.

#### Authorized Representative

Signature	<b>Ernest Saeger</b> <small>Digitally signed by Ernest Saeger Date: 2023.10.03 14:53:25 -06'00'</small>	Date	10/03/2023
Name	Ernest Saeger	Title	Executive Director

<sup>2</sup> Length of trail – use miles, square feet, linear feet



Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance  
PO Box 3986  
Avon, CO 81620  
[www.vvmta.org](http://www.vvmta.org)

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September 27, 2023

Colorado Parks and Wildlife  
State Trails Program  
13787 S. Hwy 85  
Littleton, CO 80125

I am writing to you today on behalf of the Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance's (VVMTA) Board of Directors regarding the grant application for the 2024 CPW Non-Motorized Trail Stewardship Crew grant. The VVMTA is requesting funding to support the continuance of the seasonal full-time Trail Conservation Crew (TCC).

We launched the TCC in Spring 2021 with funding through the GOCO Resilient Communities grant with the goal addressing the large backlog of maintenance projects and increase in use/impact on trails in Eagle County. The TCC has now had three full seasons under their belt, working with public land managers in Eagle County on trail stewardship and maintenance projects.

The TCC has been highly effective, essentially functioning as the trail crew for multiple land managers in Eagle County including the USFS Eagle-Holy Cross Ranger District, Bureau of Land Management, Town of Eagle, Town of Minturn, Town of Vail, Town of Avon, Eagle County Open Space, and other lands managed by various HOA's, etc.

The TCC focuses its efforts on a range of stewardship and maintenance projects including general maintenance, trail reroutes, dispersed camping management, volunteer training and project leadership, cleaning up garbage from public lands, removing barbed wire fence, decommissioning illegal trails, trailhead signage, trailhead education and outreach, and more.

We have secured funding from partners such as the USFS, Town of Eagle, and others to ensure the TCC will continue to provide its services in 2024. This grant funding will ensure that we have a full, effective crew including seasonal interns and a crew member specifically designated to trailhead education and outreach for seasonal wildlife closures and general LNT Principles.

Thank you for your consideration of supporting the continued positive impact that the TCC provides for our trails, environment, wildlife, and community.

Regards,

Jamie Malin  
Board President

# Timeline

NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION



## PROJECT DETAILS

Organization Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance

Project title VVMTA Trail Conservation Crew

TASK <small>Mobilization, staffing, construction or maintenance elements, planning phases, etc.</small>	Dates*	Dates	Dates	Dates	Dates	Dates	Dates
Post Crew Job Openings	2/1/24						
Hire Crew		3/15/24					
Begin Work/Training			4/15/24				
Seasonal Closure Outreach				4/15/24-6/21/24			
Maintenance & Restoration Work				5/1/24-10/31/24			
Crew Interns Season					6/1/24-8/7/24		
Trailhead Outreach & Education						6/22/24-10/1/24	
Season Ends							10/31/24
Administrative Close-out							12/31/24

\*The timeline is an estimate of your project completion. Remember the project must be completed within 2.5 years of the award date. Suggestion - use quarterly or multiple month time frames [Q2/XX; Jun-Sept XX]. Initial grant expiration date will be June 30<sup>th</sup> or December 31<sup>st</sup>, dependent upon assigned funding source.

# Criteria Questions



NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION - MAINTENANCE

Organization Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance

Project title VVMTA Trail Conservation Crew

## 1. PROJECT NEED

15 points

- A. Give a detailed description of the project, including information such as mileage or width of trail maintenance, re-route or restoration plans, and any other trail components/structures.

This grant will support three (3) additional crew members as part of our Trail Conservation Crew (TCC). These three crew members will support a 4-6 person crew and increase the necessary on-the-ground impact for trails and public lands in Eagle County.

1.) TCC Member/Ambassador: Will focus on seasonally wildlife closure education and outreach during the closure season of April 15-June 21. This person will manage gates, cameras, signage, and spend a majority of their time positioned at closed trailheads to deter users.  
2 & 3.) TCC Crew Interns: These two members will be college students who are majoring in Environmental Studies/Outdoor Recreation programs. These students will be paid and gain valuable experience in the field. They will be a regular part of the crew performing trail maintenance and stewardship projects as well as outreach and education.

- B. Describe the project's urgency and why it is being pursued at this time.

We could have three crews of eight and still not be able to accomplish all of the project requests we receive on an annual basis. The USFS has a very small and limited crew, the BLM doesn't have a crew, the Town of Eagle has 1.5 people on staff, and other municipalities don't even have an Open Space Department or any kind of crew managing trails and public lands within their jurisdiction.

Without the TCC, the number of boots on the ground in Eagle County is very, very limited and ineffective. The TCC fills the necessary void to be the tool and resources for land managers to use for stewardship and trail maintenance projects.

- C. Describe the current condition of the existing trail. Include how it arrived at its current condition.

A majority of Eagle County is surrounded by the White River National Forest, the most visited National Forest in the entire country, even when you take skier visits out. It is a daunting task to ensure trails and public lands are maintained and the public is educated on how to recreate responsibly. Conditions have significantly improved over the past 5-7 years with support from our volunteer driven Adopt A Trail program and the Trail Conservation Crew. We are making progress but still have a ways to go to bring trails, education, and our public lands up to management standards.

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## 2. COMMUNITY BENEFIT

15 points

- A. Describe the community that will benefit from this project. Include relevant demographic and economic data.

Eagle County residents and visitors benefit from the TCC's work on our trails and public lands.

In the last 25 years, Eagle County's population has grown 58% to over an estimated 57,000 in 2022. A majority of residents (67%) are white, non Latino or Hispanic. Secondly, Eagle County's population are (30%) Hispanic or Latino.

The age and sex of Eagle County is:

- 18 and under = 20%
- 19-64 = 65%
- 65 and over = 15%
- 47% female and 53% male

The median household income is \$91,338.00 with the average median income of \$66,000.

- B. Outline any deficiencies or barriers to access this project would address or improve for the abovementioned community.

The TCC will perform projects in 2024 which will benefit the Latino and Hispanic community specifically. On their project list in 2024 is to install over 30 new trailhead kiosks at Forest Service trailheads that are in Spanish. This will make trails more inclusive and lead to a more welcoming and safer environment for our growing Latino and Hispanic population.

- C. Estimate the number of people and/or types of user groups that will have access to recreational opportunities as a result of this project. Include methods for determining this estimate.

The number of trail users who benefit from the TCC's work is well over 100,000+ in an annual year. These trail users are primarily non-motorized hikers, trail runners, and mountain bikers. The TCC works on projects on front country trails, backcountry trails, and wilderness trails throughout all of Eagle County. This estimate is based on trail counter data that we collect from trailheads from Eagle to Vail.

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### 3. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

10 points

- A. Give a detailed description of who will oversee the trail work. Include who will perform the maintenance activities (staff, volunteers, conservation corps, contractors, etc.)

The TCC is overseen by the Executive Director (ED) and Trail Operations Manager (TOM).

The ED provides administrative oversight including grants, project development, master planning efforts, and land manager relationships.

The TOM is a full-time year round position that oversees the hiring, coordination, communication, and overall daily management of the TCC. The TOM plans projects in the field, assigns crew members to projects, schedules and evaluates project status, training, and ensures projects are completed to land manager standards and expectations.

The TCC seasonal crew members complete the projects in the field. In 2023, the TCC consisted of two crew leaders, five crew members, and one crew intern. We had four members of the TCC return from 2022 which allows us to have an experienced and well-trained team in the field.

On occasion, the TCC leads volunteers in the field, coordinating with our volunteer Adopt A Trail program to support larger volunteer projects. In addition, the TCC has led Rocky Mountain Youth Corps projects in the field on an annual basis in partnership with the USFS, Town of Eagle, BLM, and Eagle County Open Space.

- B. Outline any CPW State Trails funding received in the last five years and if the project(s) were completed on time, on budget and within scope. For applicants without prior State Trails funding, provide examples of similar grant funded projects. Include project title, year of award, grant amount, and grantor for each.

All grants supporting the Trail Conservation Crew:

- GOCO Resilient Communities: 2021, \$166,211
  - National Forest Foundation - White River Ski Conservation Fund: 2021, 2022, & 2023: \$54,449 (total)
  - Great American Outdoors Act (USFS): 2021, 2022, & 2023: \$434,682.38
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#### 4. PLANNING

10 points

- A. Discuss the process that identified this maintenance project as a priority.

The TCC has been identified as a need by our community partners and land managers. On an annual basis the project list we receive from land managers exceeds the amount of time and resources we have in a season to complete.

The TCC has been identified as the resource to address trail stewardship and maintenance projects in Eagle County.

- B. List all approved internal master our outdoor recreation plans and/or any external area, regional, or statewide plans this project supports.

This projects supports the following plans:

- White River National Forest Travel Management Plan
- Eagle County Open Space management plans including the Homestead L and Brush Creek Valley Ranch & Open Space plans
- Town of Eagle Open Space & Trails Master Plan
- Town of Vail Open Lands Plan
- Bureau of Land Management's Resource Management Plan

In the future, the TCC will support current planning efforts being developed by the Eagle County Outdoor Regional Partnership priorities and objectives.

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## 5. MAINTENANCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

10 points

- A. Explain how the site will be maintained and monitored after the grant funded work is complete (operation and maintenance plans, future budgeting commitments, etc.)

The TCC's work is supported by an army of volunteer trail stewards through our Adopt A Trail program. Annually, our AAT program engages over 1,500 volunteers that provide over 4,000 hours of volunteer trail maintenance on our trails and public lands. These volunteers provide general trail maintenance such as drainage, corridor clearing, and tread repair.

The AAT volunteers basic but necessary trail maintenance tasks supports the more technical trail projects that are performed by the TCC.

- B. Describe the best management practices that will be used to construct the trail to ensure that the trail and its amenities will be sustainable.

The TCC is highly trained by professionals such as the USFS's Trails Specialist, Open Space managers, and professional trail contractors. The TCC utilizes best practices from the range of manuals such as USFS's Trail Construction and Maintenance Notebook, IMBA's Trail Development Guidelines, BLM's Guidelines for a Quality Trail Experience, and CPW's Planning Trails with Wildlife in Mind.

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**6. WILDLIFE AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**15 points**

- A. Describe how potential impacts to wildlife and natural resources were evaluated during the project scoping phase (using 'Planning Trails with Wildlife in Mind', mapping tools, etc.). Include any positive impacts this work will showcase.

Potential impacts to wildlife and natural resources are at the forefront of our trail stewardship and maintenance projects. We approach all of our projects with a mindset on how to ensure sustainability and mitigate impacts. This may include building bridges to protect watersheds, installing seasonal closure gates & educational signage, drainage structures to move water off the trail to reduce trail braiding, closing social/illegal trails that may be impacting wildlife, and more.

One of the crew members we are seeking funding for through this grant application will specifically designated to provide trailhead education and outreach at seasonal wildlife closures between April 15 - June 21. This crew member will be stationed at closed trailheads to educate trail users why they can't recreate there during these critical times. This crew member will also support volunteers who also provide this education.

- B. Describe any wildlife and natural resources issues raised by CPW staff during the application consultation.

N/A

- C. Explain how potential wildlife and natural resource impacts will be avoided, minimized, and/or mitigated (trail realignment, seasonal closures (include dates), signage, gates, game cameras, etc.)

One TCC member will be designated to seasonal wildlife closure education and infrastructure. As described above, this person will be positioned at seasonally closed trailheads to educate people and deter them from recreating on seasonally closed trails. They will also ensure gates, signage, and trailhead infrastructure is installed and working properly. This crew member will also manage our 15 game cameras to help monitor closures and address any violations that may be occurring.

**7. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS**

**15 points**

- A. Outline public engagement activities for this project (public meetings, comment periods, surveys, etc.)

The creation of the TCC was a community need being met. Public support is showcased through our partnerships and support by public agencies throughout Eagle County. If the public did not support the TCC, municipalities, governmental agencies, and public entities would not support them.

- B. Describe any partnerships that will ensure the project's success (public agencies, conservation or recreation groups, local businesses, etc.)

Partnership is key to success for the TCC due to the nature of working across multiple land managers. Each land manager has different strategies, priorities, and policies and the TCC adheres to each land managers direction. These partnerships include the USFS, BLM, Town of Eagle, Town of Minturn, Eagle County Open Space, HOA's, and more.

- C. Describe how potential opposition to this project or its implementation will be identified, addressed and managed.

We are not aware of any opposition to the TCC and do not believe there is any. If any, it is the perception of "new trails" being built and the TCC does not build new trails.

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## 8. BUDGET AND FUNDING

10 points

- A. Describe the source of match for the project and when it will be secured. Include in-kind donations and partner contributions.

### USFS - Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA): \$75,000

GAOA funds to support the TCC are secured in 2024 in the amount of \$75,000. These funds are allocated to be used on deferred maintenance backlog projects on Forest Service land on the Eagle-Holy Cross Ranger District.

### Municipalities & County: \$60,000

Funding from the Town of Eagle, Town of Minturn, Town of Avon, Town of Vail, and Eagle County Open Space are all included in their 2024 proposed budgets. These budgets are not finalized until December 2023 but it is anticipated that this funding is secured.

### Other Grants: \$32,000

We have a long standing, solid relationship with the National Forest Foundation and its White River Ski Conservation Fund. We are anticipating funding from the NFF again in 2024 to support the TCC. We are also constantly applying for other grants to support the TCC and anticipate additional grant funding in 2024

### Private Donations/Events/Misc.: \$15,800

The VVMTA has a strong donor and membership base that provides financial support for the organization and TCC.

- B. Describe any consequences if this funding application is unsuccessful (loss of partner funds, staff capacity, expiration of surveys, etc.).

Reduced staff capacity and the TCC's ability to provide a greater impact on the ground would be negatively effected if this funding application is unsuccessful. We will not have a designated crew member at seasonally closed trailheads. We would not have two additional interns who will be able to build their environmental/stewardship career and provide positive results as part of the TCC. The TCC will still exist in 2024 but rather as 4-6 instead of 6-8.

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**Federal Environmental Form and Land Manager Approval**  
**Only to be completed if all or part of the project is located on federal land**

The applicant is responsible for securing all necessary permits, licenses, clearances, SHPO, and environmental analysis documentation necessary to comply with local, state, and/or federal laws.

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Project Name VVMTA Trail Conserva Project Sponsor Colorado River Valley F

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

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

Title of document: Colorado River Valley Field Office Approved Resource Management Plan

Date of document: 2015

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

Title of document: NEPA decision not required for trail maintenance on approved designated route



Date of document: 2015

If a decision has not been issued as part of the NEPA environmental review process, please state the reason why. No funds will be distributed until any required NEPA documentation is completed.

For more information about the NEPA environmental review process, contact:

Name: Alan Czepinski

Phone number: 970-319-7965

Email: [aczepinski@blm.gov](mailto:aczepinski@blm.gov)

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

Land Manager's Name: Larry Sandoval

Land Manager's Title

Land Manager's Signature: Field Manager

**Federal Environmental Form and Land Manager Approval**  
**Only to be completed if all or part of the project is located on federal land**

The applicant is responsible for securing all necessary permits, licenses, clearances, SHPO, and environmental analysis documentation necessary to comply with local, state, and/or federal laws.

Project Name VVMTA Trail Conserva Project Sponsor White River NF USFS E

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

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

Title of document: White River National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan; 2002 Revision

Date of document: 2002

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

Title of document: NEPA is not required

Date of document:

If a decision has not been issued as part of the NEPA environmental review process, please state the reason why. No funds will be distributed until any required NEPA documentation is completed.


For more information about the NEPA environmental review process, contact:

Name: Katherine Bazan

Phone number: 970-274-9249

Email: katherine.bazan@usda.gov

4. The next planning process that may affect this project is planned for n/a.

Land Manager's Name: Michael Smith  
Land Manager's Title: District Ranger (Acting)  
Land Manager's Signature: 

Digitally signed by MICHAEL SMITH  
Date: 2023.10.02 10:10:46 -06'00'



Non-Federal Environmental Form

**ENVIRONMENTAL CHECK LIST (for projects outside of NEPA requirements)**  
**(Construction and Maintenance Grants Only)**

Applicants are responsible to complete this form with county/local government staff or an environmental consultant to address the following environmental impacts associated with the project, including: securing all necessary permits, licenses, clearances, and environmental analysis documentation necessary to comply with local, state, or federal law. Please fill out the table below and associated narratives. If an environmental review has already been conducted on your proposal and is still viable, include the citation including any planned mitigation for each applicable resource, and choose an impact level as mitigated. If the resource does not apply to your proposal, mark NA in the first column.

All applicants will be evaluated for wildlife and aquatic impacts in a separate evaluation process by CPW wildlife staff.

**Project Name:** VVMTA Trail Conservation Crew

**Project Sponsor:** Town of Eagle

<b>ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS</b> Indicate potential for adverse impacts	<b>NOT APPLICABLE</b> Resource does not exist	<b>NEGLIGIBLE IMPACTS</b> Exists but no or negligible impacts	<b>MINOR IMPACTS</b>	<b>IMPACTS EXCEED MINOR</b>	<b>MORE DATA NEEDED TO DETERMINE DEGREE OF IMPACT</b>
1. Plants species of special concern and habitat; state/federal listed or proposed for listing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Water quality/quantity – surface and ground water considerations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Wetlands/floodplains	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Storm water runoff and/or Sedimentation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Geological resources: soils, bedrock, slopes, streambeds, landforms, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Disturbances to neighboring properties	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Historical/cultural resources, including landscapes, ethnographic, archeological, structures, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Introduction or promotion of non-native species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Environmental disturbances during construction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Air Quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Land/structures with history of contamination/hazardous materials even if remediated	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Other important environmental resources to address	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Use a separate sheet if necessary for the following questions.

Please briefly clarify how each resource could be adversely impacted; any direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts that may occur; and any additional data that still needs to be determined. Also explain any planned mitigation already addressed in previous environmental reviews.

**MITIGATION:** Please describe how impacts exceeding negligible will be mitigated; some considerations below:

- Alternative design or trail route system
- Protection of critical habitat, channeling use through less sensitive habitat areas
- Re-vegetation of disturbed areas and control of invasive species
- Management of users and related activities with signs, fencing, and education programs
- Consideration of runoff when selecting project materials, such as uncured concrete to encourage seepage
- Comprehensive storm water runoff plan

N/A

Any trail projects that exceed normal maintenance (drainage, social trail closure, corridor clearing, etc.) have undergone botany and archaeological surveys provided by professional consultants and reviewed by the Town of Eagle Open Space Department.

**BENEFIT:** Please describe any positive impacts of the project on sensitive species; some considerations below:

- Habitat improvement such as restoration of native habitat, wetlands restoration, erosion reduction, sediment reduction, river corridor clean-up, or plantings with a diversity of species and plant types for habitat restoration, and the reduction or elimination of non-native plant species
- Education of users through environmental education programs

Benefits of projects that may be completed by the TCC include:

- Decommissioning of existing legal trails that have historically been used to create illegal trails. These decommissioned trails will restore native habitat.
- Reroutes of trails to move away from Abrams Creek to protect native cutthroat and watershed health
- Reroutes of trails to create a denser trail system and mitigate spider webbing trails that impact a broader area
- Staff person to educate trail users on seasonal wildlife trail closures, LNT principles, dog leash laws, and more.

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:** The applicant is responsible for adhering to all applicable environmental compliance regulations including: Migratory Bird Treaty Act; concurrence with US Fish and Wildlife Service if any federally listed species of concern exist in project area; Clean Water Act section 404; US Army Corps of Engineers 404 permits; raptor buffer guidelines and incorporation of CPW recommended wildlife best management practices; CO Senate Bill 40 (33-5-101-107, CRS 1973 as amended); Colorado Historical, Prehistoric and Archeological Resources Act. ***All required permits must be acquired prior to submitting a non-motorized trails grant application.***

**Ernest Saeger**

Printed name of applicant

**Ernest Saeger** Digitally signed by Ernest Saeger  
Date: 2023.09.28 09:23:35 -06'00'

Signature of applicant

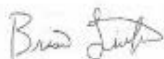
**9/28/23**

Date

**Brian Lieberman, Open Space & Trails Manager**

Printed name, title of authority:

County/local government natural resource specialist or hired consultant that completed this checklist must sign here.  
The applicant and title of authority must be different.



Signature of authority

**9/28/23**

Date

COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE

# Project Budget

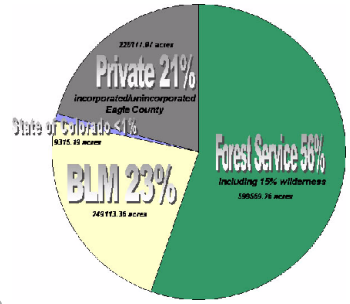
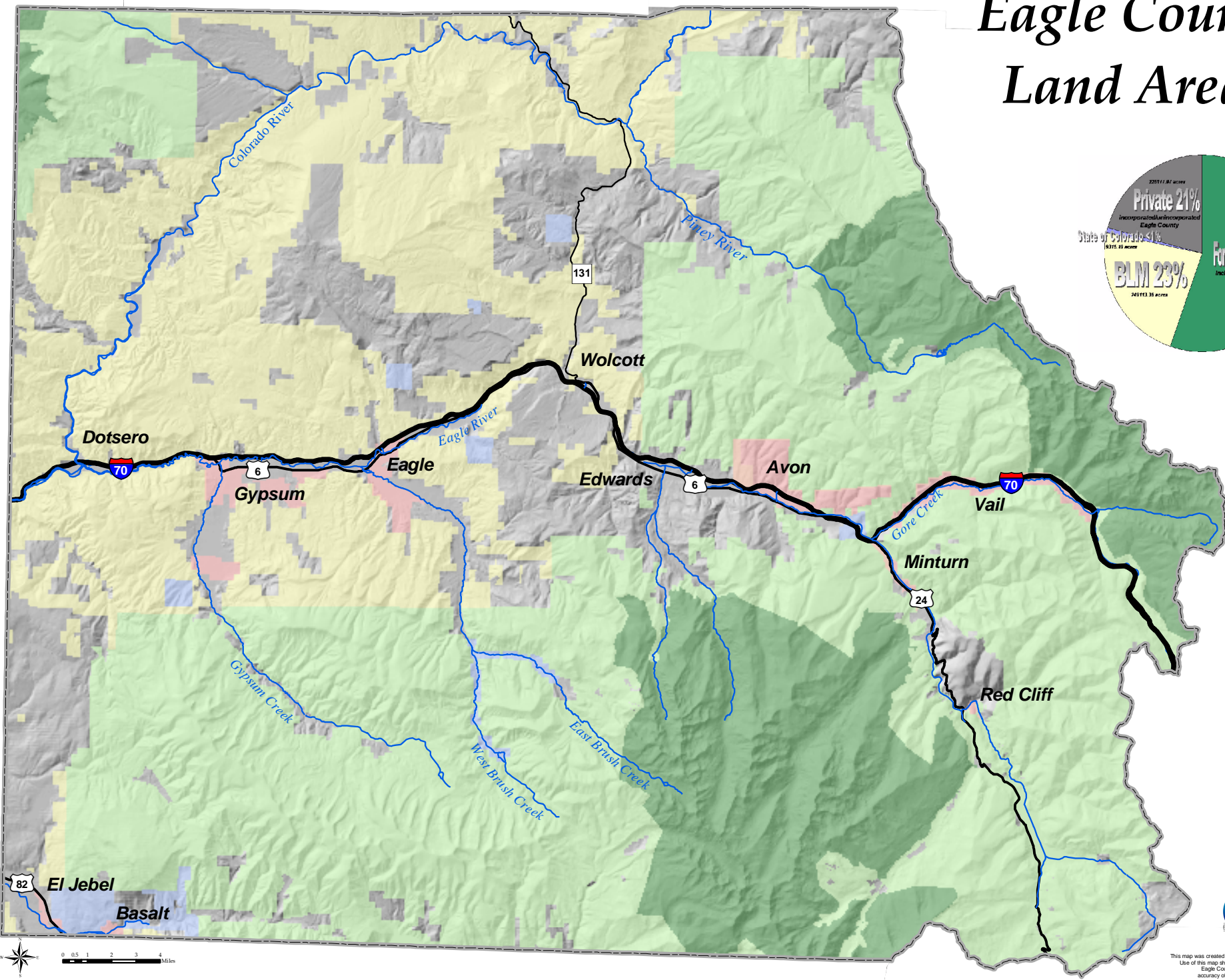


**NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT**

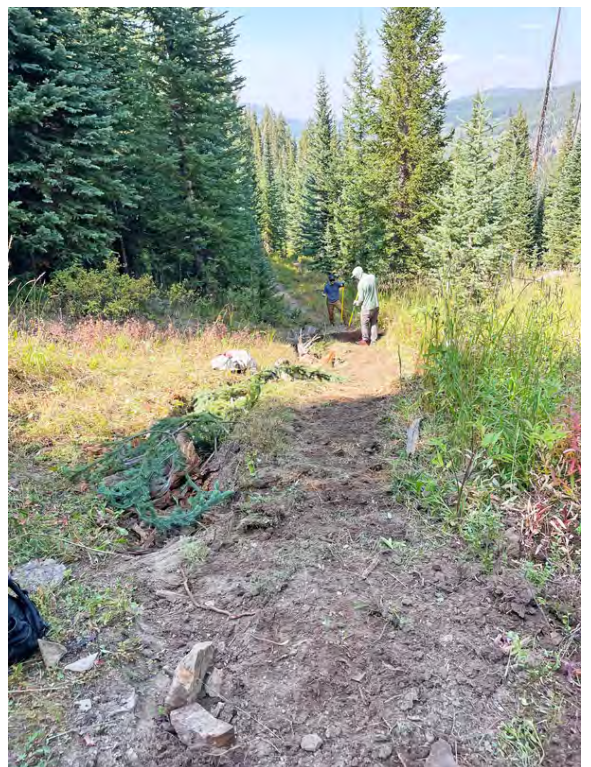
Project details				Match details			
CPW Grant #				Source of match	Type	Date available	Amount
Organization	Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance			USFS Great American Outdoors Act	Cash	Jan-24	\$ 75,000.00
Project title	VVMTA Trail Conservation Crew			Municipal/County Funding	Cash	Jan-24	\$ 60,000.00
Grant Request (auto populates)	\$ 63,700.00			Other Grants	Cash	Jan-24	\$ 32,000.00
Local match	\$ 182,800.00	Min. Match	\$ 15,925.00	Private Donations, Events, Misc.	Cash	Jan-24	\$ 15,800.00
Project Total	\$ 246,500.00					Match Total	\$ 182,800.00

Description	Qty	Unit type	Cost per unit	Total	Type	CPW Grant	Local match	Balance
<b>Salary/Wages</b>								
Trail Crew Member/Trailhead Ambassador 1	1000	Hours	\$ 26.00	\$ 26,000.00	Cash	\$ 26,000.00		\$ -
Trail Crew Member 2	500	Hours	\$ 26.00	\$ 13,000.00	Cash	\$ 13,000.00		\$ -
Trail Crew Member 3	500	Hours	\$ 26.00	\$ 13,000.00	Cash	\$ 13,000.00		\$ -
Trail Crew Members (Six)	5000	Hours	\$ 26.00	\$ 130,000.00	In-Kind		\$ 130,000.00	\$ -
Executive Director	250	Hours	\$ 45.00	\$ 11,250.00	In-Kind		\$ 11,250.00	\$ -
Trail Operations Manager	500	Hours	\$ 32.00	\$ 16,000.00	In-Kind		\$ 16,000.00	\$ -
<b>Materials/Supplies</b>								
Uniforms (pants, shirts, clothing)	3	Per Person	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,500.00	Cash	\$ 1,500.00		\$ -
Training (Chainsaw, trail maintenance, etc.)	3	Per Person	\$ 400.00	\$ 1,200.00	Cash	\$ 1,200.00		\$ -
Vehicle (monthly payment & maintenance)	6	Monthly	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	Cash	\$ 6,000.00		\$ -
Gas/Fuel for Travel	1	Total	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	Cash	\$ 1,500.00		\$ -
Equipment (backpack, boots, gloves)	3	Per Person	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,500.00	Cash	\$ 1,500.00		\$ -
Uniforms (pants, shirts, clothing)	6	Per Person	\$ 500.00	\$ 3,000.00	In-Kind		\$ 3,000.00	\$ -
Training (Chainsaw, trail maintenance, etc.)	6	Per Person	\$ 400.00	\$ 2,400.00	In-Kind		\$ 2,400.00	
Vehicle (monthly payment & maintenance)	6	Monthly	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	In-Kind		\$ 6,000.00	
Gas/Fuel for Travel	1	Total	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	In-Kind		\$ 2,500.00	
Equipment (backpack, boots, gloves)	6	Per Person	\$ 500.00	\$ 3,000.00	In-Kind		\$ 3,000.00	
Tools (Chainsaw, pick mattocks, shovels, etc.)	40	Per Tool	\$ 100.00	\$ 4,000.00	In-Kind		\$ 4,000.00	
<b>Additional Categories</b>								
Workers Compensation	6	Monthly	\$ 350.00	\$ 2,100.00	In-Kind		\$ 2,100.00	\$ -
Scheduling/Time Tracking Software Management	6	Monthly	\$ 175.00	\$ 1,050.00	In-Kind		\$ 1,050.00	\$ -
Wilderness First-Aid Class	1	Total	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	In-Kind		\$ 1,500.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>				\$ 246,500.00		\$ 63,700.00	\$ 182,800.00	

# Eagle County Land Areas



  
 This map was created by the Eagle County GIS Department.  
 Use of this map should be for general purposes only.  
 Eagle County does not warrant the accuracy of the data contained herein.













United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

White River  
National  
Forest

Eagle/Holy Cross Ranger District  
24747 US Hwy 24  
P.O. Box 190  
Minturn, CO 81645  
(970) 827-5715  
FAX (970) 827-9343

**Date:** October 2, 2023

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

Dear CPW State Trails Committee,

The USFS Eagle-Holy Cross Ranger District strongly supports the Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance’s (VVMTA) grant application for funding to support its Trail Conservation Crew (TCC). Trail based recreation in Eagle County continues to grow year over year and it continues to be a challenge to manage the impacts. Since 2021, the TCC has made a significant contribution to our community’s trails and public lands putting in over 20,000 hours of trail maintenance, stewardship projects, and educational programming to protect and improve our natural resources.

The TCC provides “boots on the ground” work across our entire community, working with partners including the USFS, BLM, Town of Minturn, Town of Vail, Town of Avon, Eagle County Open Space, Town of Eagle, and more.

Specifically, the TCC has supported the Eagle-Holy Cross Ranger District by;

- Accomplishing deferred maintenance projects, including structure replacement, on district trails funded by the Great American Outdoors Act.
- Fence removal to improve wildlife habitat.
- Decommissioned illegal trails in sensitive wildlife habitat.
- Seasonal Wildlife Closure education.
- Installed trail and educational signage.

As Eagle County’s population and recreation use continues to grow, it is very important to continue addressing, managing, and mitigating these impacts. The TCC is a necessary resource to achieve these objectives to ensure the sustainability of our community’s trails and natural resources.

The VVMTA has been and continues to be a trusted partner within our community. Thank you for your consideration and we strongly support the CPW State Trails Committee awarding these funds to the VVMTA.

Sincerely,

X

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Michael Smith  
District Ranger (Acting)  
Eagle-Holy Cross Ranger District, White River National Forest





# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Colorado River Valley Field Office  
2300 River Frontage Road  
Silt, CO 81652

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
LLCOGO20-8320

September 22, 2023

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

Dear CPW State Trails Committee,

The Bureau of Land Management, Colorado River Valley Field Office strongly supports the Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance's (VVMTA) grant application for funding to support its Trail Conservation Crew (TCC).

Trail based recreation in Eagle County continues to grow year over year and it continues to be a challenge to manage the impacts. Since 2021, the TCC has made a significant contribution to our community's trails and public lands putting in over 20,000 hours of trail maintenance, stewardship projects, and educational programming to protect and improve our natural resources.

The TCC provides their boots on the groundwork across our entire community. TCC supports BLM recreation management efforts through leading RMYC crews on trail rehab, maintenance and construction projects. The TCC crew themselves provide critical maintenance on BLM trails. Furthermore, through coordination with BLM recreation staff, the crew installs signs throughout the BLM trail network in Eagle County and educates trail users on trail etiquette including seasonal wildlife closures.

As Eagle County's population and recreation use continues to grow, it is very important to continue addressing, managing, and mitigating these impacts. The TCC is a necessary resource to achieve these objectives to ensure the sustainability of our community's trails and natural resources.

The VVMTA has been and continues to be a trusted partner within our community. Thank you for your consideration and we strongly support the CPW State Trails Committee awarding these funds to the VVMTA.

Sincerely,

Hilary Boyd  
Assistant Field Manager



**Department of Open Space  
and Natural Resources**

Marcia Gilles  
970-328-8697

marcia.gilles@eaglecounty.us  
[www.eaglecounty.us](http://www.eaglecounty.us)

September 28, 2023

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

Dear Colorado Parks and Wildlife State Trails Committee,

The Eagle County Open Space and Natural Resources Department strongly supports the Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance's (VVMTA) grant application for funding the Trail Conservation Crew (TCC).

Trail based recreation in Eagle County continues to grow year over year and managing the impacts continues to be a challenge. Since 2021, the TCC has made a significant contribution to our community's trails and public lands by putting in over 20,000 work hours on trail maintenance, stewardship projects, and educational programming to protect and improve our natural resources.

The TCC provides their boots on the ground work across our entire community, working with partners including the US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Town of Minturn, Town of Vail, Town of Avon, Eagle County Open Space, Town of Eagle, and more. The work that TCC does across jurisdictions provides consistent implementation of trail maintenance and educational messaging to people using recreational trails across the County.

The TCC directly supports Eagle County's access to public lands:

- Designing and building trails
- Providing Seasonal Wildlife Closure education to visitors

As Eagle County's population and recreation use continues to grow, it is highly important to continue managing and mitigating recreation impacts. The TCC is a necessary resource to achieve these objectives to ensure the sustainability of our community's trails and natural resources.

The VVMTA has been and continues to be a trusted partner within our community. Thank you for your consideration and we strongly support the CPW State Trails Committee awarding these funds to the VVMTA.

Sincerely,

Marcia Gilles  
Director, Open Space and Natural Resources



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

Dear CPW State Trails Committee,

The Town of Eagle strongly supports the Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance's (VVMTA) grant application for funding to support its Trail Conservation Crew (TCC).

Trail based recreation in the Town of Eagle is highly valued by residents, businesses, and visitors. Since 2021, the TCC has been a needed resource to support the Town of Eagle's Open Space & Trails initiatives. They have made a significant contribution to our community's trails and public lands.

The TCC provides their boots on the ground expertise and work across our entire community, supporting education efforts, Rocky Mountain Youth Corps leadership, trail maintenance projects, and stewardship initiatives.

As Eagle's population and recreation use continues to grow, it is very important to continue addressing, managing, and mitigating these impacts. The TCC is a necessary resource to achieve these objectives to ensure the sustainability of our community's trails and natural resources.

The VVMTA has been and continues to be a trusted partner within our community. Thank you for your consideration and we strongly support the CPW State Trails Committee awarding these funds to the VVMTA.

Sincerely,

Brian Lieberman  
Open Space and Trails Manager  
Town of Eagle  
970-328-6542  
[Brian.lieberman@townofeagle.org](mailto:Brian.lieberman@townofeagle.org)

Cindy Krieg  
Economic Development &  
Special Events  
301 Boulder St. #309  
Minturn, CO 81645  
970-827-5645  
[events@minturn.org](mailto:events@minturn.org)



Town Council  
Mayor – Earle Bidez  
Mayor Pro Tem – Terry  
Armistead  
Council Members:  
Gusty Kanakis  
Tom Sullivan  
Lynn Feiger

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

Dear CPW State Trails Committee,

The Town of Minturn strongly supports the Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance’s (VVMTA) grant application for funding to support its Trail Conservation Crew (TCC).

Trail based recreation in Eagle County continues to grow year over year and it continues to be a challenge to manage the impacts. Since 2021, the TCC has made a significant contribution to our community’s trails and public lands putting in over 20,000 hours of trail maintenance, stewardship projects, and educational programming to protect and improve our natural resources.

The TCC provides their boots on the ground work across our entire community, working with partners including the USFS, BLM, Town of Minturn, Town of Vail, Town of Avon, Eagle County Open Space, Town of Eagle, and more.

The TCC has been integral in the outdoor recreation success for Minturn and surrounding communities by spearheading the following types of projects:

- Leading RMYC crews
- Trail maintenance and stewardship projects
- Signage installation
- Seasonal Wildlife Closure education

As Eagle County’s population and recreation use continues to grow, it is very important to continue addressing, managing, and mitigating these impacts. The TCC is a necessary resource to achieve these objectives to ensure the sustainability of our community’s trails and natural resources.

The VVMTA has been and continues to be a trusted partner within our community. Thank you for your consideration and we strongly support the CPW State Trails Committee awarding these funds to the VVMTA.

Sincerely,

Cindy Krieg

Cindy Krieg  
Economic Development / Special Events  
Town of Minturn

# Document checklist



NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION – CONSTRUCTION OR MAINTENANCE

## PROJECT DETAILS

Organization Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance

Project title VVMTA Trail Conservation Crew

## DOCUMENTS

### PRE-APPLICATION - SEPTEMBER

Document	Source	Submission format
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. Scope of work	Applicant's own	PDF
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2. Project map	Applicant's own	PDF

### FULL APPLICATION - OCTOBER

Document	Source	Submission format
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3. Application form	CPW template	PDF
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4. Timeline	CPW template	PDF
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5. Budget	CPW template	Unprotected Excel file
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6. Photographs & maps	Applicant's own	Merged PDF (5 pages max)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7. Letters of support	Various	Merged PDF (5 letters max)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8. Resolution	Applicant's own	Signed PDF
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 9. Environmental forms	CPW Template	Signed PDF
<input type="checkbox"/> 10. Formal EA or NEPA*	Federal Template	Web link or PDF

## ADDITIONAL PROJECT INFORMATION

11. Required match funding secured (including cash match funds)
12. Construction projects have been evaluated for permits and, if required, permits obtained.
13. Project area is owned by a public land agency or has an easement that designates the area be open to the public for at least 25 years.
14. Conservation/Youth Corps or other organization will be used on the project.  
Name of organization: **Rocky Mountain Youth Corps**
15. Volunteers will be utilized on the project  
Name of organization: **Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance**

\*Must be completed prior to application presentations in January.