

REVISED 12/1/23

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COLORADO
Parks and Wildlife
Department of Natural Resources

2024-2025 Off-Highway Vehicle Program State Trail Grant Application

Name of Project: USFS-SLVGO! OHV Major Trail Reroute Projects	Date of Application: 11/27/23
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(Please limit the project name to 5 words or less)

Total Project Cost: \$193,000 <i>(round off to the nearest \$1)</i>	Grant Request: \$50,000 <i>Amount Requested (round off to the nearest \$1) must match the Project Budget Form.</i>
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PROJECT SPONSOR (Name and Address for entity legally responsible for project)

Organization Name: San Luis Valley Great Outdoors

Mailing Address: 510 San Juan Ave, Alamosa, CO 81101

Telephone: 1(855)GOSLVGO	Email: slvgreatoutdoors@gmail.com
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OFFICIAL USE ONLY – UEI # (IF REQUIRED): 883895146
<https://sam.gov/content/duns-uei>

PROJECT CONTACT This is the person with day-to-day responsibility for the managing the project, ensuring the contract scope of work will be fulfilled. Please notify us if *Project Contact* changes.

Name: Patrick Ortiz	Title: Operations Director
Mailing Address: 510 San Juan Ave, Alamosa, CO 81101	
Telephone: 1(855)GOSLVGO	Email: patrickortiz@slvgo.com
Is this the primary contact for this grant: YES X NO	

PROJECT CLOSE-OUT CONTACT This is the person responsible for submitting receipts for project spending and close-out. Please notify us if *Project Contact* changes.

Name: Patrick Ortiz	Title: Operations Director
Mailing Address: 510 San Juan Ave, Alamosa, CO 81101	
Telephone: 1(855)GOSLVGO	Email: patrickortiz@slvgo.com

GRANTS & AGREEMENTS SPECIALIST (USFS only) or BUDGET CONTACT (BLM only)

Name: Robert James	Title: Financial Manager
Mailing Address: 510 San Juan Ave, Alamosa, CO 81101	
Telephone: 1(855)GOSLVGO	Email: robertjames@slvgo.com

PROJECT LOCATION		
Nearest Town or City: South Fork, Creede, Lake City, Del Norte		
County(ies): Hinsdale, Mineral, Rio Grande		
Provide a point of reference for mapping purposes (i.e. a google searchable landscape feature): Upper Rio Grande, San Luis Valley		
Township/Range/Section: Multiple		
State Senate District #: 34	State Representative District #: 62	
LAND OWNERSHIP		
1. Provide the name/s of the property owners:		
2. The trail corridor is controlled by: <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Simple <input type="checkbox"/> Lease <input type="checkbox"/> Easement <input type="checkbox"/> License <input type="checkbox"/> Right-of-Way <input type="checkbox"/> Land Acquisition Ownership to be obtained <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (explain): <u>USFS</u>		
TRAIL SYSTEM INFORMATION (List the number of miles for each type of OHV trail in your area)		
Miles of Singletrack: <u>194.7</u>	Miles of 50" or less: <u>190.4</u>	Miles of Full-sized: <u>4.3</u>
TRAIL USER INFORMATION (Please check all that apply to the work planned for this project)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All-Terrain Vehicle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Side x Side	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Sized 4X4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motorcycling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Four-Wheeling	<input type="checkbox"/> Accessible Access
PROJECT INFORMATION (Please check all activities that apply to this project.) Include detailed information for each in the Project Scope of Work.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Trail Maintenance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Travel Plan Implementation	
<input type="checkbox"/> *New Trail Construction miles / ft. _____ (Approved through Travel Mgt Decision)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource Protection & Improvement	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *Major Re-Route miles / ft. closed <u>1</u> (that will require new or additional <i>environmental</i> approvals) miles / ft. added <u>1.5</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Signs	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Corps	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restoration/Rehabilitation (existing corridor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning	
<input type="checkbox"/> Visitor Contacts & Law Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> Capital Equipment	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Land Acquisition or Other	
* New Trail Construction & Major Re-Route: Trail location(s) must be indicated on project map and detailed description of trail work plans must be provided in Project Selection Criteria, Section D-1, #3 Resource Protection, Enhancement & Restoration		
TRAIL ACTIVITIES SUMMARY (Based on your project description and budget, provide the percentage for each of the categories listed below.)		
95%	Program maintenance (e.g., erosion controls, water bars and culverts, trail clearing and brushing, trail hardening and trail tread repairs, bridge construction and repairs, trailhead improvements and maintenance, crew wages, etc.)	
2%	Enforcement, Education & Visitor Contacts (e.g., patrols, enforcement, education and visitor contacts, wages, safety contacts, equipment, etc.)	
3%	Planning & Travel Plan Implementation (e.g., planning, engineering, maps, inventorying, travel management signs & installation, decommission non-system routes, rehabilitation, new construction, wages, monitoring, etc.)	
0%	Equipment /Materials/ Signs/ Youth Corps/Miscellaneous (e.g., equipment maintenance and repair, personnel training, certification in the use of specialized equipment, program coordination, etc.)	

100%	Total: (Note: Percentages should add to 100 %)
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SCOPE OF WORK – Project Description:	
Project Name: USFS-SLVGO! OHV Major Trail Reroute Projects	Project No.: <small>(to be completed by CPW)</small>
Project Sponsor: San Luis Valley Great Outdoors	Application Year: 2024-2025
Project Contact: Patrick Ortiz	Application No.: <small>(to be completed by CPW)</small>
Total Project Cost: \$ 193,000	Grant Request: \$ \$50,000

Project Description: Please write a brief 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 for project background, benefits or anything other than the actual work to be accomplished. Please address this information in question #2 of section D, Project Selection Criteria.)

Remove all instructional text (below) and replace it with information specific to this project request

WHO?

San Luis Valley Great Outdoors is the reporting non-profit responsible for and primary contact for the USFS-SLVGO! OHV Major Trail Reroute Projects. SLV GO! will employ their professional trail crew, Great Outdoors Action Team (GOATs), to plan, design, and complete the major reroutes of the damaged sections of OHV trails to spec. This project will also be assisted by Boothill Motorcycle Club, a local volunteer OHV trail and advocacy group.

WHERE?

San Luis Valley Great Outdoors is located in Alamosa, CO and works across the Upper Rio Grande Basin and 6 counties of the SLV. Our aim is to complete as much major reroute work as budget and time allows for Divide Ranger District.

WHAT?

USFS-SLVGO! OHV Major Trail Reroute Projects will implement reroutes in popular, highly impacted areas in alignment with Divide Ranger Districts priority goals.

WHEN?

This OHV project will begin in 2025, and we will continue to apply for the State Trails OHV grant program to fund the SLV GO! GOATs crew for the conservation efforts of natural resources on our public lands so users will continue to utilize and travel to the SLV to recreate.

Program Funding Acknowledgement

None of this work can occur without the generous support of the Colorado State Trails OHV grant program. As such, on all roads and up-to-motorized trails, SLV GO! duly recognizes this support with placards on kiosks and decals on route markers. This serves as both an acknowledgement of the Colorado State Trails OHV Program's involvement and support for these projects (regardless of where they are located within the state), and also as a reassurance to users who

pay their annual OHV registrations and can easily see the impact of their contributions, the results of which are a source of community pride and worthy of recognition. The signage also serves as a reminder of who and how these important recreational opportunities are being funded and developed for all users, including those who don't pay OHV registration fees.

DEFINITIONS? Do you need to define any terms or acronyms that are used in your project description?

IAW=In accordance with

BMP=Best Mgmt Practices

GOATs=Great Outdoors Action Team

SLV GO!= San Luis Valley Great Outdoors

DRD = Divide Ranger District, Rio Grande National Forest

MOTORIZED TRAILS, RIO GRANDE NATIONAL FOREST

DISTRICT	RTE ID	RTE NAME	BMP	EMP	SEG LENGTH	MODE of TRAVEL
DIVIDE	787.1	LA GARITA SD CUT-OFF	0.0	1.2	1.2	<= 50"
DIVIDE	700	DRY CREEK	8.0	16.0	7.9	<= 50"
DIVIDE	702	SOUTH ROCK	0.0	1.9	1.9	<= 50"
DIVIDE	703	ALAMOSA ROCK	0.0	5.4	5.4	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	705	AMERICAN GULCH	0.0	6.6	6.6	<= 50"
DIVIDE	709	BEAR CREEK	0.0	4.6	4.6	<= 50"
DIVIDE	761	PALISADE	0.0	2.1	2.1	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	786	BENINO	0.0	5.2	5.2	<= 50"
DIVIDE	787	LA GARITA SD. (Portion)	0.0	26.0	26.0	<= 50"
DIVIDE	787	LA GARITA SD. (Portion)	42.2	53.0	10.8	<= 50"
DIVIDE	787	LA GARITA SD. (Portion)	53.0	57.1	4.0	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	791	SALT CANYON	0.0	4.8	4.8	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	792	EMBARGO	0.0	5.9	5.9	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	793	LA GARITA CREEK	0.0	4.7	4.7	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	793	LA GARITA CREEK	4.7	11.2	6.5	<= 50"
DIVIDE	793.1	LA GARITA CREEK CUT-OFF	0.0	1.4	1.4	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	793.2	LA GARITA CREEK CUT-OFF	0.0	1.5	1.5	<= 50"
DIVIDE	793.3	LA GARITA CREEK CUT-OFF	0.0	2.4	2.4	<= 50"
DIVIDE	794	CATHEDRAL	0.0	3.7	3.7	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	795	GROUNDHOG	0.0	2.8	2.8	<= 50"
DIVIDE	795	GROUNDHOG	2.8	6.3	3.4	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	796	PERRY CREEK	0.0	8.2	8.2	<= 50"
DIVIDE	797	MIDDLE ALDER	0.0	5.0	5.0	<= 50"
DIVIDE	798	WEST ALDER	0.0	6.0	6.0	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	799	ALDER BENCH	0.0	6.5	6.5	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	803	MINER'S CREEK	0.0	8.8	8.8	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	812	CROSS CREEK	0.0	4.7	4.7	<= 50"
DIVIDE	813	CONTINENTAL DIVIDE NST	189.3	194.6	5.3	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	815	FERN CREEK	0.0	4.0	4.0	<= 50"
DIVIDE	820	POLE CREEK	0.0	3.1	3.1	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	821	LOST TRAIL	0.0	6.5	6.5	<= 50"
DIVIDE	822	WEST LOST	0.0	7.0	7.0	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	831	TROUT	0.0	10.5	6.6	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	842	TEWSKBERRY	0.0	6.1	6.1	<= 50"
DIVIDE	844	HANKERCHIEF MESA	0.0	4.1	4.1	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	846	CASTLE ROCK	0.0	1.5	1.5	<= 50"
DIVIDE	847	MAIN BEAVER	0.0	2.3	2.3	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	849	WOLF CREEK	0.0	8.7	8.7	<= 50"
DIVIDE	850	WEST FRISCO	0.0	7.6	7.6	<= 50"
DIVIDE	872	BENNETT	0.0	11.0	11.0	<= 50"
DIVIDE	873	BURRO	0.0	8.0	8.0	<= 50"
DIVIDE	874	MUNGER CANYON	0.0	2.3	2.3	<= 50"
DIVIDE	885	FREMONT	0.0	0.7	0.7	<= 50"

DIVIDE	894	FRISCO-FITTON	0.0	3.1	3.1	< = 50"
DIVIDE	898	SHADY	0.0	11.4	11.4	< = 50"
DIVIDE	916	EAST FK. MIDDLE POLE	0.0	6.4	6.4	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	917	MIDDLE POLE	0.0	2.3	2.3	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	932	WEST BEAR	0.0	4.2	4.2	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	934	SHRADER	0.0	4.7	4.7	MOTORCYCLE
DIVIDE	935	CHURCH CREEK	0.0	2.4	2.4	< = 50"

Divide RD total motorized trail miles 271.4

The trails in bold font are currently identified for priority maintenance in 2024. These priority trails will be reevaluated early in 2024

DISTRICT	RTE ID	RTE_NAME	BMP	EMP	SEG LENGTH	MODE_OF_TRAVEL
CONEJOS PEAK	704	SILVER MTN	0	12.	12.2	MOTORCYCLE
CONEJOS PEAK	706	BIG LAKE (SHAWCROFT)	0	2.1	2.1	MOTORCYCLE
CONEJOS PEAK	708	HOT CREEK	0	8.0	8.0	MOTORCYCLE
CONEJOS PEAK	715	SADDLE CREEK	0	4.8	4.8	MOTORCYCLE
CONEJOS PEAK	716	LAKE FORK	0	3.1	3.1	MOTORCYCLE
CONEJOS PEAK	717	VALDEZ	0	2.0	2.0	MOTORCYCLE
CONEJOS PEAK	734	HIDDEN LAKE	0	1.6	1.6	MOTORCYCLE
CONEJOS PEAK	737	WILLOW MOUNTAIN	0	9.8	9.8	MOTORCYCLE
CONEJOS PEAK	739	ACASCOSA	0	1.3	1.3	MOTORCYCLE
CONEJOS PEAK	742	EMPEDRADO LAKE	0	6.2	6.2	MOTORCYCLE
CONEJOS PEAK	759	SAWMILL GULCH	0	2.0	2.0	MOTORCYCLE

Conejos Peak RD total single track motorized trail miles 53.1

Conejos Peak RD has requested assistance in 2024 for only clearing motorized single track trail corridor.

DISTRICT	RTE ID	RTE_NAME	BMP	EMP	SEG LENGTH	MODE_OF_TRAVEL
SAGUACHE	764	ANTORA MEADOWS	0	2.5	2.488	MOTORCYCLE
SAGUACHE	788	MINER'S CREEK	0	0.8	0.817	< = 50"
SAGUACHE	813	CONTINENTAL DIVIDE NST	236.7	274.3	37.6	MOTORCYCLE
SAGUACHE	909	BOWER'S PEAK	0	3.0	3.0	MOTORCYCLE

Saguache RD total motorized trail miles 43.9

Saguache RD has requested continued assistance in 2024 with motorized trails within their District

Budget Form

Project Name: USFS-SLVGO! OHV Major Trail Reroute Projects	Date Project will be Completed: 11/30/25
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Project Sponsor: San Luis Valley Great Outdoors/Rio Grande National Forest

ITEMS LISTED IN THE BUDGET BELOW SHOULD BE SPECIFIC AND CORRESPOND TO THE PLANNED ACTIVITIES INDICATED IN THE PROJECT DESCRIPTION (SCOPE OF WORK) IN YOUR GRANT APPLICATION. (Round amounts off to nearest dollar)

PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES List all sources and amounts of project funding in this section (insert additional lines if needed)	CASH	In-Kind (Non-Cash) Contributions	TOTAL
OHV Grant Funding (amount of requested OHV grant funds only)	\$50,000.00		\$ 50,000.00
USFS In-Kind:		\$ -	\$ -
Park Ranger Salary (25/hr) - Planning/Oversight/Monitoring/Support (aprx.10wks)	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
2 UTV's, 2 Motorcycles, 1 ROKON Mototractor - Mtce./Repairs/PPE...	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Staff Salary Dedicated to Managing OHV Use on Public Lands	\$ -	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
SLV GO! Operation Director (Project Management) In Kind	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
OnX Hunt grant (if awarded)	\$20,000	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Fox Factory Grant (if awarded)	\$10,000	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
USE OF GRANT FUNDING	TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT		\$193,000.00

List uses of grant funding (only) below

I. Personnel Costs

Identify as: Salary/wage, benefits, *travel, training, outfitting costs, personal protection equipment, etc. Non-Profit organizations will be required to purchase

Club Member/Employee Name or Title	\$ Per Hr	Quantity	Total Cost
SLV GOATS Crew Leader/Logistics	\$29.00		\$ 8,320.00
SLV GOATS Crew Leader	\$29.00		\$ 8,320.00
SLV GOATS Crew Leader	\$29.00		\$ 8,320.00
SLV GOATS Crew Member	\$27.50		\$ 6,490.00
SLV GOATS Crew Member	\$27.50		\$ 6,490.00
SLV GOATS Crew Member	\$27.50		\$ 6,490.00
For CPW use only: Approximate number of workhours	1,532.07		
Category Total			\$44,430.00

II. Project Materials/Supplies

Identify as: Signs, rock, lumber, paint, nails, printing, maps/guides, education materials, etc.

	Price Per	Quantity (weeks)	Total	
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Category Total				\$ -

III. Equipment

Identify as: Trail Dozer, ATV, motorcycle, chainsaws, field equipment rentals, equipment fuel and repairs, fleet vehicle operations, etc.

	Price Per	Quantity	Total	
Mini-excavator fuel and maintenance	\$200.00	5	\$1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Skid steer fuel and maintenance	\$200.00	5	\$1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Track haulers fuel and maintenance	\$100.00	5	\$500.00	\$ 500.00
2 Crew Trucks fuel	\$100.00	5	\$500.00	\$ 500.00
Category Total				\$ 3,000.00

III.A. FLEET Equipment

Identify as: Crew Fleet Vehicles/Trucks monthly FOR & USE, Fleet Equipment monthly USE.

	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Category Total				\$ -

V. Volunteer Support

Identify as: For Volunteers Only Safety education, safety gear (gloves/goggles), outfitting, per diem (meals or mileage when travel required by and identified in project scope of work), non-monetary awards or recognition.

	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Category Total				\$ -

VI. Insurance

(Non-profit organizations only)

	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Category Total				\$ -

VII. Grant Administrative Costs (Non-profit organizations only)

Identify as: administrative costs, office supplies, postage, phone charges, computer & printer supplies, etc. (Up to 5% of amount spent)

SLV GOATs Operations Director Project Oversight	\$29.00	2		\$ 2,570.00
Category Total				\$ 2,570.00

* Non-profit organizations that reimburse travel expenses will be required to use OHV Program Travel Forms - provide

Note: Any changes to the budget must have pre-approval from the Program

Total	\$50,000.00
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C-1

FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION and LAND MANAGER APPROVAL

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	SLVGO Divide Major OHV Trail Reroutes	Project Sponsor	Divide Ranger District
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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 titled:

RGNF Forest Land Management Plan Date: May 2020

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

Date and title of document:

N/A

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.

Categorical Exclusion will be completed for these reroutes during 2024 field season.

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

Patrick J. Moran

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

Patrick J. Moran Divide District Ranger

Print or type Land Manager's Name and Title

PATRICK MORAN

Digitally signed by
PATRICK MORAN
Date: 2023.11.29
14:55:51 -07'00'

Land Manager Signature and Title

Date

PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Need for & Benefit of the Project (25 points):

Target areas for this work are the following locations: Lower Groundhog, the connection of West Lost Creek and Pole Creek, Frisco-Fitton Cut-off, and the La Garita Stock Drive. There is urgency in applying these reroutes at these locations because it will allow existing crews to achieve more tangible results, on a variety of projects, in more places during the field season. These areas require reroutes to improve sustainability, safety, and improve user experience. If SLV GO! successful in getting this grant, it would allow the Divide OHV Heavy Maintenance Crew to focus more on management and annual heavy maintenance across a much larger portion of the RGNF OHV trail system every year. This would decrease the amount of time the Divide Crew has to spend on isolated project areas and reroutes. Especially in the rural gateway communities of Monte Vista, Del Norte, and South Fork, all within Rio Grande County, take high priority as the OHV trails are most often frequented by locals and frequently recommended to visitors by local businesses and residents.

Approximately 1000 OHV users including dirtbikes, side-by-sides, quads, etc, will benefit from this work annually, if not more, due to increased numbers in tourism within the SLV, which has been identified as one of the last undiscovered corners in Colorado and is rapidly being discovered as a recreation destination. Many residents of the SLV utilize OHV trails, but most users travel from other states and regions to enjoy the iconic and challenging terrain of the Rocky Mountains. The purpose of trail reroutes is to create strong trail systems that can withstand a multitude of riders, users, and weather events, as much as possible. We are called the Rocky Mountain region for a reason, these trails are difficult and we want to help foster the challenge needs of OHV riders while simultaneously maximizing conservation efforts so our public lands can withstand the abundant use over time.

2. Partnerships, Support and Leverage (25 points):

The Divide Ranger District of the Rio Grande National Forest (DRD) has been working with SLV GO! in close cooperative partnership since 2020 with the inaugural GOATs season, and are the leading agencies to plan and complete this scope of work. As the pendulum of projects sway between entities, there is undying support to help support the work and project breadth which varies year to year. With the backlog of maintenance within USFS trails due to increase in population, OHV users in the SLV, damage from 2022 monsoon season, and user made trails, projects are compounding and the need for continuous funding is more apparent than ever as we move forward attempting to keep up with the workload. Shared networks and agencies broaden the scope of needed assistance from the regional population which includes; Southwest Conservation Corps (SCC) and Volunteers of Outdoor Colorado (VOC) who provide opportunities for youth engagement in building, restoration, conservation, and stewardship of our trail systems. With expert guidance from vetted VOC volunteers and the SLV GO! GOATs whose professionalism is outstanding, not

only in the project outcomes, but also their leadership, collaborative approach within team dynamics, and project interest even after the maintenance has been concluded, The USFS-SLVGO! OHV Major Trail Reroute Projects has generous support around the work that is to be completed.

The USFS-SLVGO! OHV Major Trail Reroute Projects will require appropriate equipment, vehicles, planning and designing in the maintenance and reinforcements for OHV trails. There has been no local or regional resistance thus far in the planning of this project, nor do we anticipate any resistance in the future in regards to this project. Oversight of the project will be coordinated by DRD and the work completed by the SLV GOATs. With 5 crew weeks the GOATs will work to accomplish all proposed re-routes.

The summer of 2023, SLV GO! was awarded the Blue Grama Award by Colorado Open Space Alliance for Outstanding Achievement in Community Partnership and Collaboration. This award recognizes achievements made in open space conservation, management, and community engagement through partnerships and collaborative efforts. Additionally, in 2021 SLV GO! was recognized for their ongoing collaborative work and partnering initiative in the outdoors, they have been accepted as a new partner within the Colorado Outdoor Regional Partnership Initiative (RPI). This statewide initiative is an effort to, "bring together diverse groups of stakeholders in outdoor recreation and conservation to explore with intent how our partners can collaborate together to address the increased use of our recreational assets, identify priorities region-wide to envision a more balanced environment, while also providing equitable access and quality outdoor recreation experiences." SLV GO! continues to hold a seat in RPI today. There is a huge library of knowledge and experience within our shared networks that will allow us to follow best practices and achieve exceptional outcomes. Not only can SLV GO! And the DRD benefit from this state-wide library of resources, other agencies and organizations can learn from best practices we have collectively proven over the years and help influence land stewardship ethics that are being established all over the state of Colorado.

3. Resource Protection, Enhancement and Restoration relative to eligible OHV grant activities (25 points):

These improvements will increase the longevity of the landscape, adhere to USFS regulations without distracting from the natural challenge of the terrain, keep the trails sustainable for future users and make stewardship more approachable repairing minor projects as opposed to major reroute projects.

There are a multitude of OHV users across the nation that seek to recreate in the SLV and enjoy the spectacular trail systems we have to offer on our public lands. There are many who are Colorado residents that travel from congested areas such as the front range for the openness that our landscape offers and the challenging terrain of the Rocky Mountains. We want to protect and enhance all experiences for visitors and SLV residents by providing sustainable trail systems, amenities at trailheads, and lead by example to educate all users of outdoor stewardship to keep our natural resources at their best through *Leave No Trace Principles* and *Stay the Trail* thoughtful mentality. It is in our top priorities list that the restoration of public lands pairs with local

initiatives of stewardship and reinstallation of community pride to care for outdoor spaces. The USFS-SLVGO! OHV Major Trail Reroute Projects will provide an example of how future projects coordinated with partners can work, before erosion and ridability conditions get worse

Though the SLV has an economy that is mainly driven by agriculture, outdoor recreation provides a large impact to local communities, especially since the increase of visitors during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our main focus with this project is to obliterate sections of unsustainable trails and design and implement reroutes that preserve the challenge of the ride and provide long-term sustainability, requiring less maintenance. The SLV has unique terrain that sits within an alpine desert climate which faces hotter temperatures and drier air quality than other OHV systems in the state. The Summer of 2022, the SLV was faced with a treacherous monsoon season that broke through water bars and turned sections of trails into rivers. It is uncommon for the SLV to see this amount of rainfall at one time, however it is a major concern for the sustainability of existing trails and added pressure to be consistent with ongoing maintenance if another rain event of this magnitude occurs.

Major Trail Re-Route

Major Re-Route: Defined as trail work that will require new and/or additional environmental approvals. (Minor re-routes taking place on an already approved trail corridor will not be considered a *major* re-route, as described here.)

- Provide the number of miles or feet that are being re-routed and why.
- Provide a detailed map of where the trail re-route is located, showing old/current route and proposed re-route.

Major Reroutes:

Frisco Fitton 0.2 miles
Lower Groundhog 1 mile
LaGarita Stock D 0.5 miles
Pole/West Lost 0.5 miles

USFS Divide Ranger District staff will be leading the effort to complete required NEPA clearances. These are popular trails with serious need for trail obliteration and new, sustainable reroute creation.

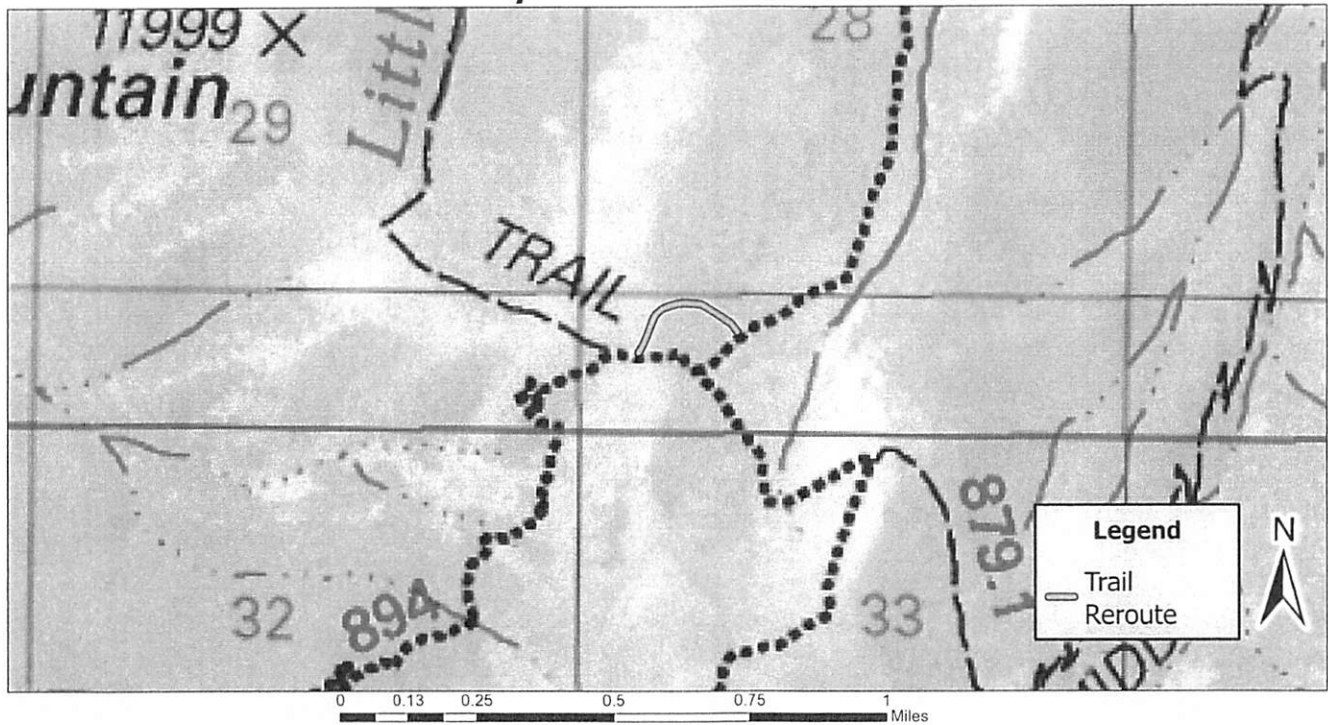
4. Travel Management Plan Implementation, Education and Enforcement (25 points):

SLV GO! GOATs will follow the guidance of DRD as far as travel management in these areas. This implementation will take the form of adequate signage at designated trailheads and trail junctions.. The language used will stem from the collected narrative of stewardship partners and be addressed to all users of public land trails; OHV, hikers, bicycles, and equestrian users. Education is the key element to creating a healthy ecosystem for our trails. Volunteer opportunities are a great way to share knowledge, skill, and the ability to pay it forward, a selfless act leaving the land better than you found it and continuing to pass along information about sustainability to others. When everyone does a little to give back each user will have a greater experience in the outdoors no matter where they are coming from. Education around what trail

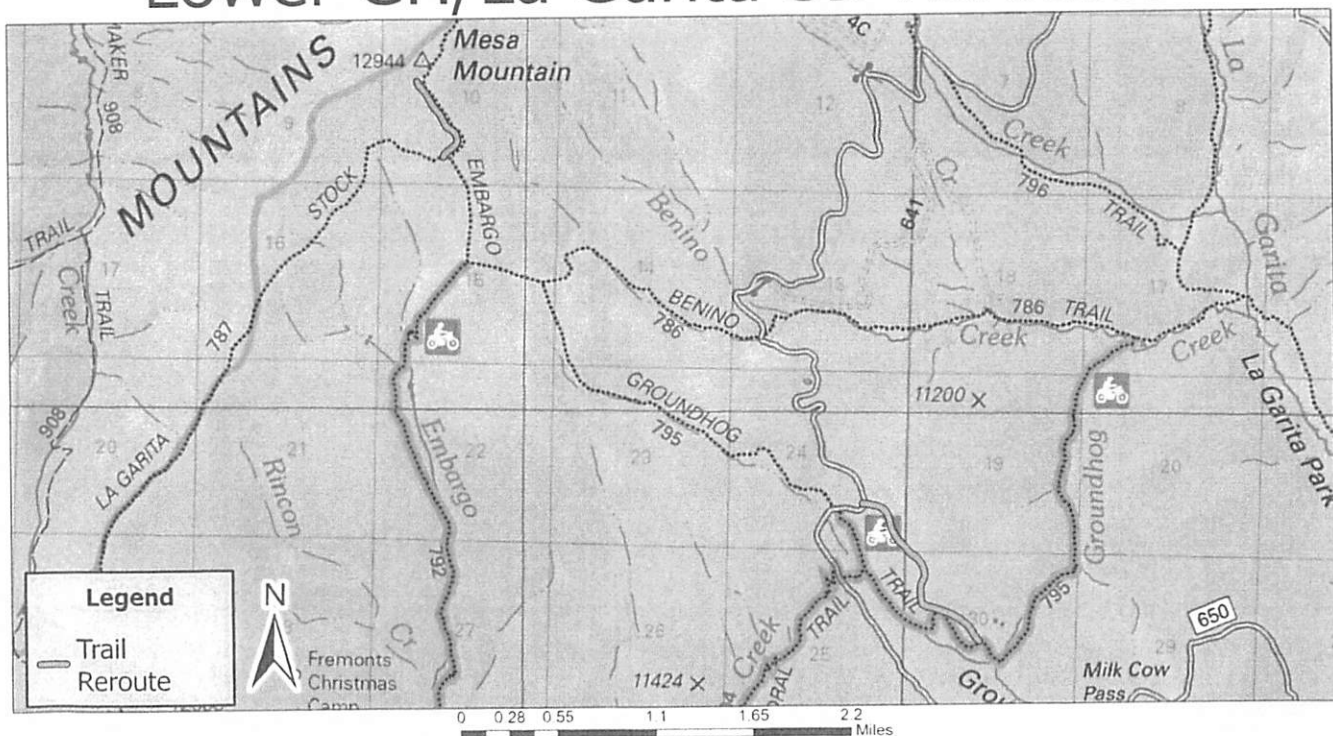
reroutes entails is pertinent in this section as to demystify rumors of OHV maintenance making trails “easier to ride”. In addition to user outreach, SLV GO! will re-launch a 2021 campaign in collaboration with Rio Grande National Forest Divide Ranger District about the importance of trail etiquette among diverse users. This 5-part Outdoor Stewardship Video series can be found [here](#).

A highly utilized resource is Stay the Trail, a Colorado based resource for OHV users and has an abundant amount of information available, their mission; “To reinforce and highlight responsible OHV use, and to modify and mitigate irresponsible use in an effort to minimize resource damage on public land. We offer educational services and materials to land management agencies, OHV and OHV accessory dealers, educational and community institutions, and the general public.” This kind of ongoing education along with the Leave No Trace Principles are elements that will be reinforced with trail signage.

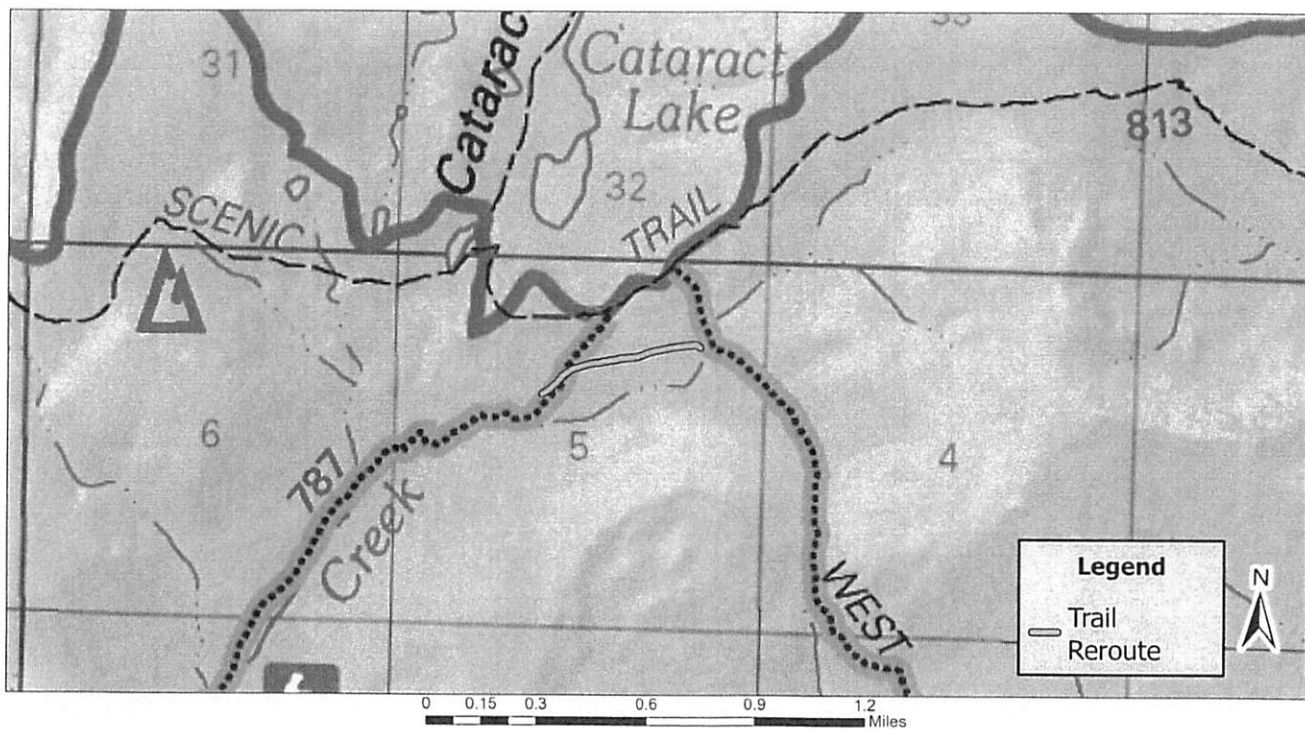
Frisco/Fitton Reroute



Lower GH/La Garita SD Reroutes



Pole Creek/West Lost Reroute



(F) Project Illustration

Photographs, Drawings, Engineering Plans, Diagrams







File Code: 2300
Date: November 29, 2023

Tom Metsa
OHV Program Manager
Colorado State Parks and Wildlife; 13787 South Hwy 85; Littleton, CO 80125

Dear Tom and Committee Members,

Please accept this letter of support for the San Luis Valley Great Outdoors 2025 OHV USFS Major Trail Reroute grant proposal. The San Luis Valley Great Outdoor Action Team (SLV GOATs), a program of San Luis Valley Great Outdoors (SLV GO), and its local trail stewardship partners could provide these services, if funded to do the work.

For the last 3 years, the SLV GOATs have implemented over 20 projects with the BLM - SLV FO and Rio Grande National Forest (RGNF), ranging from campground improvements, trail/boardwalk construction, trash pick-up, and trail maintenance.

RGNF and SLV GO! see an opportunity to collaborate and add capacity to the RGNF motorized trail program. There is a backlog of trail sections that were not purpose built or engineered for the type of multiple use they receive and will continue to receive.

Achieving responsible recreation in these ways provides benefits two-fold; by protecting natural and cultural resources and providing an avenue and place for the community and visitors to recreate outdoors. These areas often require reroutes to improve sustainability, safety, and improve user experience. If SLV GO! successful in getting this grant, it would allow the Divide OHV Heavy Maintenance Crew to focus more on management and annual heavy maintenance across a much larger portion of the RGNF OHV trail system every year. This would decrease the amount of time the Divide Crew has to spend on isolated project areas and reroutes.

All work will be approved and closely coordinated with the Divide Ranger District. NEPA clearance is being accomplished in 2024 by the Divide Ranger District for this 2025 project. Possible target areas for this work are the following locations: Lower Groundhog, the connection of West Lost Creek and Pole Creek, Frisco-Fitton Cut-off, and the La Garita Stock Drive.

Sincerely,

**PATRICK
MORAN**

Digitally signed by
PATRICK MORAN
Date: 2023.11.29
14:54:38 -0700

PATRICK J. MORAN
District Ranger





Dear CPW State OHV grant committee,

This letter serves as the San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council's (SLVEC) letter of support for the San Luis Valley Great Outdoors 2025 OHV USFS Trail Reroute grant proposal. We recognize the need for a more focused trail stewardship that emphasizes work on tread and effective drainage, as well as increasing visitor contacts, inventorying work, monitoring past work, and addressing additional signage installation needs.

While the USFS trail crews will take on the duties mentioned above, there is still a need to begin addressing the major re-routes that have been identified over the last several years as a priority. Unfortunately, Rio Grande National Forest cannot complete such tasks as they are a small staff with nearly 2 million acres to manage and that is why they have asked the SLV GOATs crew to assist in their completion. The San Luis Valley Great Outdoor Action Team (SLV GOATs), a program of San Luis Valley Great Outdoors (SLV GO), and its local trail stewardship partners could provide these services, if funded to do the work.

For the last 3 years, the SLV GOATs have implemented over 20 projects with the BLM - SLV FO and Rio Grande National Forest, ranging from campground improvements, trail/boardwalk construction, trash pick-up, and trail maintenance. Rio Grande National Forest and the SLV GO! Coalition are in alignment to accomplish this next phase for outdoor recreation opportunities via OHV trails in our region. Achieving responsible recreation in these ways provides benefits two-fold; by protecting natural and cultural resources and providing an avenue and place for the community and visitors to recreate outdoors. The trails that will be focused on for re-route implementation on this project are on Lower Groundhog, the connection of West Lost Creek and Pole Creek, Frisco-Fitton Cut-off, and the La Garita Stock Drive.

SLVEC's mission is to protect and restore the biological diversity, ecosystems, and natural resources in the Upper Rio Grande Basin by balancing ecological values and sustainable human needs. SLVEC and SLV GO! have collaborated on grassroots community initiatives as catalysts to connect our communities to the natural world for improved health, resilience, natural resource management strategies that ensure environmental preservation, and better quality of life through our public lands trail systems. Rerouting trails is incredibly important in helping reduce the fragmentation of essential habitats and the impact of human activities on wildlife. Rerouting trails builds a better future to steward our lands and creates opportunities for respectful exploration and recreation. This work would not only benefit SLVEC but it would benefit our land, water, and people working towards protecting our cultural and natural resources.

Therefore, the San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council is pleased to support the San Luis Valley Great Outdoor's 2025 OHV USFS Trail Reroute grant proposal. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at projects@slvec.org or 719-580-4833.

Sincerely,

Anna Lee Vargas

Anna Lee Vargas,
Project Manager



HINSDALE COUNTY
COLORADO

311 N. Henson St. Lake City, Colorado 81235 970-944-2225 www.hinsdalecountycolorado.us

December 6, 2023

Dear CPW State OHV grant committee,

Hinsdale County is pleased to support the San Luis Valley Great Outdoors OHV USFS maintenance grant proposal. We recognize the need for a more focused trail maintenance that emphasizes work on tread and effective drainage, as well as increasing visitor contacts, inventorying work, monitoring past work, and addressing additional signage installation needs. Unfortunately, Rio Grande National Forest alone cannot complete such tasks as they are a small staff with near 2 million acres to manage and heavily relies on partners and partnerships. The San Luis Valley Great Outdoor Action Team (SLV GOATs), a program of San Luis Valley Great Outdoors (SLV GO), and its local trail stewardship partners could provide these services, if funded to do the work.

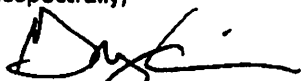
For the last three years, the SLV GOATs have implemented over twenty projects with the BLM (SLV Field Office) and the Rio Grande National Forest, ranging from campground improvements, trail/boardwalk construction, trash pick-up, and trail maintenance. The Rio Grande National Forest and the SLV GO! Coalition are in alignment to accomplish this next phase for outdoor recreation opportunities via OHV trails in our region. Achieving responsible recreation in these ways provides benefits two-fold; by protecting natural and cultural resources and providing an avenue and place for the community and visitors to recreate outdoors.

The selected trails that will be chosen for re-route planning and subsequent implementation on Lower Groundhog, connection of West Lost Creek and Pole Creek, and the La Garita Stock Drive.

Hinsdale County has successfully implemented trails projects with SLV GO! utilizing grant funding for past projects in the Upper Rio Grande valley.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,


Commissioner Greg Levine, Chair



#1 Spot for Fun

"We don't just sell equipment... We sell excitement!!!"

Nov 30, 2023

Dear CPW State OHV grant committee,

This letter serves as Mark's Outdoor Sport's letter of support for the San Luis Valley Great Outdoors 2025 OHV USFS Major Trail Reroute grant proposal. The San Luis Valley Great Outdoor Action Team (SLV GOATs), a program of San Luis Valley Great Outdoors(SLV GO), and its local trail stewardship partners could provide these services, if funded to do the work.

RGNF and SLV GO! see an opportunity to collaborate and add capacity to the RGNF motorized trail program. There is a backlog of trail sections that were not purpose built or engineered for the type of multiple use they receive and will continue to receive.

We support keeping trails open and assure they are taken care of properly. Achieving responsible recreation in these ways provides benefits two-fold; by protecting natural and cultural resources and providing an avenue and place for the community and visitors to recreate outdoors. These areas often require reroutes to improve sustainability, safety, and improve user experience. If SLV GO! successful in getting this grant, it would allow the Divide OHV Heavy Maintenance Crew to focus more on management and annual heavy maintenance across a much larger portion of the RGNF OHV trail system every year. This would decrease the amount of time the Divide Crew has to spend on isolated project areas and reroutes.

All work will be approved and closely coordinated with the Divide Ranger District. NEPA clearance is being accomplished in 2024 by the Divide Ranger District for this 2025 project. Possible target areas for this work are the following locations: Lower Groundhog, the connection of West Lost Creek and Pole Creek, Frisco-Fitton Cut-off, and the La Garita Stock Drive.

Sincerely,

The Mark's Outdoor Sports Team



November 30

Dear CPW State OHV grant committee,

This letter serves as Peak Motorsports letter of support for the San Luis Valley Great Outdoors 2025 OHV USFS Major Trail Reroute grant proposal. The San Luis Valley Great Outdoor Action Team (SLV GOATs), a program of San Luis Valley Great Outdoors (SLV GO), and its local trail stewardship partners could provide these services, if funded to do the work.

RGNF and SLV GO! see an opportunity to collaborate and add capacity to the RGNF motorized trail program. There is a backlog of trail sections that were not purpose built or engineered for the type of multiple use they receive and will continue to receive.

We support keeping trails open and assure they are taken care of properly. Achieving responsible recreation in these ways provides benefits two-fold; by protecting natural and cultural resources and providing an avenue and place for the community and visitors to recreate outdoors. These areas often require reroutes to improve sustainability, safety, and improve user experience. If SLV GO! successful in getting this grant, it would allow the Divide OHV Heavy Maintenance Crew to focus more on management and annual heavy maintenance across a much larger portion of the RGNF OHV trail system every year. This would decrease the amount of time the Divide Crew has to spend on isolated project areas and reroutes.

All work will be approved and closely coordinated with the Divide Ranger District. NEPA clearance is being accomplished in 2024 by the Divide Ranger District for this 2025 project. Possible target areas for this work are the following locations: Lower Groundhog, the connection of West Lost Creek and Pole Creek, Frisco-Fitton Cut-off, and the La Garita Stock Drive.

Sincerely,

Aaron Webber . G.M

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Webber", with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

The Peak Motorsports Team