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NW-VC



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

Name of Project: Return to Dirt CO 2025	Date of Application: 11/29/23
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(Please limit the project name to 5 words or less)

Total Project Cost: \$84,929 <i>(round off to the nearest \$1)</i>	Grant Request: \$23,565 <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: High Fives Foundation	
Mailing Address: 10775 Pioneer Trail #108, Truckee, CA 96161	
Telephone: (530) 587-4453	Email: office@highfivesfoundation.com

OFFICIAL USE ONLY – UEI # (IF REQUIRED):
<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: Tim Burr	Title: Return to Dirt Program Coordinator
Mailing Address: 172 County Road 160, Glenwood Springs, CO	
Telephone: (970) 379-4752	Email: tim@highfivesfoundation.org
Is this the primary contact for this grant: YES 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: Ally Karacozoff	Title: Grants and Development Manager
Mailing Address: 10775 Pioneer Trail #108, Truckee, CA 96161	
Telephone: (916) 284-1336	Email: ally@highfivesfoundation.org

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

Name:	Title:
Mailing Address:	
Telephone:	Email:

PROJECT LOCATION	
Nearest Town or City: <u>Glenwood Springs, CO</u>	
County(ies): <u>Garfield County</u>	
Provide a point of reference for mapping purposes (i.e. a google searchable landscape feature): <u>White River National Forest and Flat Tops Wilderness Area</u>	
Township/Range/Section: <u>Township/Range 6S 89W, Section 27</u>	
State Senate District #: <u>5</u>	State Representative District #: <u>57</u>
LAND OWNERSHIP	
1. Provide the name/s of the property owners: <u>USDA Forest Service</u>	
2. The trail corridor is controlled by: <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Other (explain): _____	
TRAIL SYSTEM INFORMATION (List the number of miles for each type of OHV trail in your area)	
Miles of Singletrack: _____	Miles of 50" or less: _____ Miles of Full-sized: <u>1,500</u>
TRAIL USER INFORMATION (Please check all that apply to the work planned for this project)	
<input type="checkbox"/> All-Terrain Vehicle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Side x Side <input type="checkbox"/> Full Sized 4X4
<input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycling	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> Travel Plan Implementation
<input type="checkbox"/> *New Trail Construction miles / ft. _____ (Approved through Travel Mgt Decision)	<input type="checkbox"/> Resource Protection & Improvement
<input type="checkbox"/> *Major Re-Route miles / ft. closed _____ (that will require new or additional environmental approvals) miles / ft. added _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Signs
<input type="checkbox"/> Restoration/Rehabilitation (existing corridor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Corps
<input type="checkbox"/> Visitor Contacts & Law Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Capital Equipment	<input type="checkbox"/> Education
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" 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.)	
0%	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.)
12%	Enforcement, Education & Visitor Contacts (e.g., patrols, enforcement, education and visitor contacts, wages, safety contacts, equipment, etc.)
0%	Planning & Travel Plan Implementation (e.g., planning, engineering, maps, inventorying, travel management signs & installation, decommission non-system routes, rehabilitation, new construction, wages, monitoring, etc.)
88%	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 %)

SCOPE OF WORK – Project Description:	
Project Name: Return to Dirt CO 2025	Project No.: <small>(to be completed by CPW)</small>
Project Sponsor: High Fives Foundation	Application Year: 2024-2025
Project Contact: Tim Burr	Application No.: <small>(to be completed by CPW)</small>
Total Project Cost: \$84,929	Grant Request: \$23,565

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? [High Fives Foundation \(High Fives\)](#) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, founded in 2009 by Roy Tuscany and headquartered in Truckee, California, whose mission is to focus on preventing life-changing injuries and provide resources and hope if they happen. Our vision is to create a universal shift in adventure sports that expands what is possible for those who have faced life-changing injuries.

Participant Demographics. A High Fives athlete is an individual with a life-changing injury (spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, amputation). Among the 715 High Fives athletes across the U.S. that we currently serve, approximately 75% have sustained an SCI. 16% of High Fives athletes are veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces. Colorado has the second highest proportion of High Fives athletes, making up more than 12% of the individuals we serve.

High Fives has a significant presence in Colorado. Each year, we take small groups of High Fives athletes all over the country, from ski resorts in Vermont to trails of Northern California to beaches on Maui, to hone their skills in five pillars of sport: skiing/snowboarding, biking, surfing, motocross, and fly-fishing. **2023 adaptive camps held in Colorado:** Winter Park Ski Camp (Winter Park), Military to the Mountain CO (Granby Ranch), Return to Dirt (Glenwood Springs), Motodemption Adaptive Motocross (Leadville). Further, High Fives hosts community events nationally, and activities range from ski-a-thons to galas and golf tournaments to movie premieres to engage with the broader life-changing injury community year round. **2023 community events held in Colorado:** Play Forever Thursdays (Copper Mountain), Retro Shred Ski-A-Thon (Winter Park), Colorado Golf Tournament (Vail).

Return to Dirt Program. Return to Dirt (R2D) is an adaptive motorsports program service of High Fives Foundation. Originally founded in 2018 and operated by High Fives athlete #78, Tim Burr, out of Glenwood Springs, Colorado, R2D's mission is to provide equipment and instruction for individuals with disabilities to pilot off-road vehicles into backcountry areas otherwise impossible to access because of a mobility impairment.

After three successful camps hosted in collaboration with R2D, High Fives acquired R2D in 2022 to expand the program as the needs and demands continue to grow. High Fives is responsible for all the recruitment of participants; planning, communications, and logistics; financing and coordination of sponsors and partners for gear, apparel, supplies, and equipment; travel, transportation, and meals; volunteer, mentor, and safety expert coordination; and media and marketing for R2D trips.

WHERE? R2D Colorado is headquartered in Glenwood Springs, CO, and all trips take place within Garfield County. Trails accessed for R2D experiences for the 2025 season will be within the White

River National Forest and the Flat Tops Wilderness Area, and both areas are managed by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). All trail systems accessed for these off-highway vehicle (OHV) experiences are selected from motor vehicle route and area designations defined by the National Forest's summer motor vehicle use maps.

WHAT? High Fives Foundation requests \$23,565 for its Return to Dirt (R2D) Colorado program in 2025. Funds awarded will be used to bring 20 athletes with life-changing injuries to a minimum of 10 days of OHV trips within Garfield County. These trips will cover an estimated 1,500+ miles of trails within the White River National Forest (based on an average of 1,599 miles annually driven at R2D experiences for the last five years). These funds will also support the production of educational videos that promote responsible OHV use and reveal the inclusivity and accessibility that High Fives brings to the State of Colorado.

R2D reunites a disabled athlete with a part of themselves that can only be found in nature. For many of our athletes, outdoor recreation is unattainable because of physical, financial, geographic, or social limitations. With our equipment, expertise, and teamwork, we can provide accessibility in otherwise inaccessible environments.

R2D puts disabled individuals behind the wheel of their own adventure. Whether it's just to twist throttle or to see the sights, there is every reason for physically impaired athletes to have increased access to their dreams off the beaten path. The purpose of these experiences is simple: get athletes of all ability levels into high-powered vehicles, allow them to engage with like-minded individuals who have faced similar life challenges, build their community, and most importantly, get them somewhere they have never been, exploring the beauty of the outdoors. In just 2023, 1,878 miles were hand-driven at 23 R2D trips for 62 different High Fives athletes in attendance. Since establishment in 2018, R2D has created 246 experiences for 147 unique athletes with 7,998 UTV miles driven.

Trips are primarily need-based, awarded in fulfillment of R2D's mission. Individuals who are interested in participating complete an online application form. Engagement and outreach for potential participants is done via High Fives' social media channels, Mailchimp email campaigns, and regular communications with High Fives athletes by our Program and Athlete Managers. All are welcome to apply, provided the applicant meets the criteria below.

General requirements:

1. Applicants must reside in the United States or Canada, and they must complete the trip application in the United States or Canada. The accident/injury does not need to have occurred in the United States or Canada.
2. Effective January 1, 2014, to stay in compliance with the U.S. Government's Affordable Health Care Act, applicants must have current and up-to-date health care coverage.

Eligibility and Evaluation:

1. Any applicant who has significant limits accessing outdoor/nature locations caused by inaccessibility and demonstrates passion for outdoor experiences can be granted a trip.
2. A valid driver's license must be held by participants to be considered as a potential driver of the R2D equipment. Participants with a valid license are still only granted driving privileges by R2D staff discretion.
 - a. Athletes that don't have a driver's license can still be considered to receive a trip, but they will participate as passengers.
3. Trips are granted to those whose goals and dreams can be delivered upon by R2D.
4. R2D Colorado is based in Glenwood Springs, Colorado, and R2D days will be in that area. This means that participants must be able to travel and stay in the Glenwood Springs area in order to be eligible.

The goal of this project is to make recreational use of OHVs accessible to individuals with life-changing injuries on public lands within Garfield County. The State of Colorado commits to providing equitable access to its services and resources. While we can't make an entire national forest wheelchair accessible anytime soon, R2D is an established, successful program service of High Fives that brings individuals into places otherwise inaccessible, at zero cost to them. By supporting this project, the Colorado Off-Highway Vehicles program is making the White River National Forest and the Flat Tops Wilderness Area accessible to individuals of all ability levels.

The White River National Forest is centrally located for Colorado-based High Fives athletes and features a broad array of trails that are suitable for beginner to intermediate riders with entry-level trails and versatility. The Flat Tops Wilderness Area is more advanced with higher elevation and rugged terrain, perfect for riders who are looking to go outside their comfort zone to expand their horizons. R2D participants are positively impacted by forming new social connections, learning new knowledge and skills, and challenging themselves in the great outdoors.

There is also an educational element to it, as we create videos of R2D experiences highlighting trail etiquette and responsible OHV and land use. High Fives Foundation recognizes that not enough people know about the importance of OHV registrations and our programs that make OHV use accessible to individuals of all ability levels. Therefore, we will make a minimum of two (2) educational videos that show how High Fives creates accessibility and responsible use of OHVs in Colorado.

WHEN? High Fives acknowledges that for awarded projects, funds will not be available until fall of 2024 or spring of 2025. Within the White River National Forest, there are designated summer routes that can be used from approximately June 1 to November 22, 2025 (weather dependent).

Assuming a one year grant period, all grant funds will be used up within this time frame, and any and all reporting requirements will be completed by 10/31/2025 or 4/30/2026, depending on the start date of the grant period. (i.e., one year from the start date of the grant).

Program Funding Acknowledgement. High Fives acknowledges and will comply with the requirement to credit the OHV grant program for funding received. High Fives recognizes grantors in a variety of ways, such as editorial features on our website, including blog posts recapping the R2D experiences, sharing photo albums by professional photographers such as Alpine Media House and Generikal Designs, and creating captivating and informative videos. In addition, the Colorado OHV grant program logo(s), such as *Colorado Registration Dollars at Work*, will be present on all media and marketing in the examples above (i.e., within educational videos, on blog posts and email campaigns) and displayed on our Partners webpage (highfivesfoundation.org/partners/), linking back to the Colorado OHV website. All editorials created about trips funded by the Colorado OHV program will include phrasing such as "this trip was made possible by a generous grant from the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Off-Highway Vehicles program."

Further, an R2D recap following the trips will be sent out as an email campaign, with links to photo albums and all partners acknowledged, to 45,500+ subscribers on High Fives' MailChimp. Further, we share photos, videos, interview quotes, and stories on our social media: our Instagram has almost 35,000 followers, and our Facebook over 17,700 follows, reaching a broad audience. High Fives will remain in accordance with the acknowledgment terms specified in the OHV grant contract.

DEFINITIONS

- Return to Dirt (R2D)
- Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV)

Budget Form

Project Name: Return to Dirt CO 2025

Date Project will be Completed: 10/31/2025

Project Sponsor: High Fives Foundation

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 <small>List all sources and amounts of project funding in this section (insert additional lines if needed)</small>	CASH	In-Kind (Non-Cash) Contributions	TOTAL
OHV Grant Funding (amount of requested OHV grant funds only)	\$ 23,565		\$ 23,565.00
Other Funding Sources	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Polaris T.R.A.I.L.S Grant (\$9,010 toward R2D program coordination)	\$ 9,010	\$ -	\$ 9,010.00
Garfield County Human Services Commission Grant (\$4,500 toward R2D program coordination)	\$ 4,500	\$ -	\$ 4,500.00
Muc Off In-Kind Product Donations		\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000.00
High Fives Foundation program funds	\$ 42,854	\$ -	\$ 42,854.00
USE OF GRANT FUNDING	TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT		\$ 84,929.00

List uses of grant funding (only) below

I. Personnel Costs <small>Identify as: Salary/wage, benefits, travel, training, outfitting costs, personal protection equipment, etc.</small>			
	\$ Per Hr		Total Cost
Tim Burr, Return to Dirt Program Coordinator Salary (5% annual salary)	\$ -		\$ 2,607.00
Generikal Designs or Alpine Media House - Educational video production contract	\$ -		\$ 10,000.00
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
<small>For CPW use only: Approximate number of workhours</small>	#DIV/0!	Category Total	\$ 12,607.00

II. Project Materials/Supplies <small>Identify as: Signs, rock, lumber, paint, nails, printing, maps/guides, education materials, etc.</small>			
	Price Per	Quantity	Total
Water sprayers, ice, waiver clipboards, tracking devices, tire replacements, helmets, oil change parts, first aid kit	\$ -		\$ 3,926.00
Participant meals	\$ -		\$ 1,760.00
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
		Category Total	\$ 5,686.00

III. Equipment <small>Identify as: Trail Dozers, ATV/UTV, motorcycle, chainsaws, winches, field equipment rentals, equipment fuel, repairs, and operations, etc.</small>			
	\$		Total
Fuel	\$ -		\$ 2,772
Applied Vehicle Costs (2% of total annual side-by-side fleet maintenance)	\$ -		\$ 2,500.00
	\$ -		
		Category Total	\$ 5,272.00

III.A. FLEET Equipment <small>Identify as: Crew Fleet Vehicles/Trucks monthly FOR & USE, Fleet Equipment monthly USE.</small>			
	\$		Total
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
		Category Total	\$ -

IV. Contracted Services <small>Identify as: Youth Corps, NEPA, planning, engineering, construction contractor/subcontractor costs</small>			
	\$		Total
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
		Category Total	\$ -

V. Volunteer Support <small>Identify as: <u>For Volunteers Only</u> 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.</small>			
	\$		Total
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
		Category Total	\$ -

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

Total	\$ 23,565.00
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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

Return to Dirt CO 2025

Project
Sponsor

High Fives Foundation

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:

N/A

Date:

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.

N/A

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

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

Print or type Land Manager's Name and Title

Land Manager Signature and Title

Date

After consulting the White River National Forest Supervisor's Office in Glenwood Springs, CO, this section is not applicable as no permits or clearances are needed for this project. All vehicles used are titled and have up-to-date registrations in the State of Colorado.

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PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA

Carefully read and provide answers to each of the following four criteria (four page maximum):

All applicants must respond to the following selection criteria questions. You are allowed the space below each question to fill in your answer. If you have an answer that does not fill the entire page, do not feel obligated to fill the space. 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. Each project will be reviewed by outside reviewers and State Trails staff, and 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 reference all attachments.

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

"Having friends like fellow High Fives family members who comes over to sit and hang out makes the lonely harder days so much brighter. They also are the ones always challenging me to find ways to be outside, which I love because we can share the little victories together." – Liz S., High Fives athlete #423, Colorado-based athlete

Individuals with life-changing injuries face financial, physical, and geographic barriers to access. Spinal cord injuries are incredibly expensive. According to the National Spinal Cord Injury Statistical Center (NSCISC) "Facts and Figures," the average yearly expenses for individuals with C1-C8 level SCIs is roughly \$1.13 million in the first year and \$184,000 for each subsequent year (NSCISC 2023). 40% of High Fives athletes with SCIs sustained injuries to the C1-C8 vertebrae. And, the majority of High Fives athletes reside in rural, low income, and/or medically underserved areas and therefore lack access due to geographic or financial obstacles (designations per data.hrsa.gov).

Through interviews and surveys, High Fives athletes raise and prioritize issues like the costs of living with SCIs, the need for social interaction and peer mentorship following injury, the desire to reintegrate into sports and physical activity, and more. Among High Fives athletes who have been surveyed in 2023, 42% reported that the number one type of support that helps them during low points in the healing process post-injury is social support, particularly in the outdoors and immersed in nature.

The State of Colorado commits to providing equitable access to its services and resources. While we can't make an entire national forest wheelchair accessible anytime soon, Return to Dirt (R2D) is an established, successful program service of High Fives that brings individuals into places otherwise inaccessible, at zero cost to them. By supporting this project, the Colorado Off-Highway Vehicles program is making the White River National Forest and the Flat Tops Wilderness Area accessible to individuals of all ability levels.

This project is a priority because the needs and demands of our program services are growing faster than we can consult on trail builds and improvements for wheelchair accessibility. Funding this project will provide OHV riding opportunities to 20 athletes with life-changing injuries who cannot afford to access these trails on their own, who physically cannot get to parts of the White River National Forest due to accessibility or geographic barriers, and who do not know where to find accessible and inclusive trail systems. It also provides a community of support for individuals with shared interests and a passion for OHV riding. This project will promote riding opportunities that cultivate new skills and challenge riders by visiting varied landscapes and topography at two different locations: the White River National Forest for entry-level terrain and the Flat Tops Wilderness Area for higher elevation and more rugged trails. Detailed more later in this proposal,

this project will have no impact to the surrounding resources. Riders remain on trail and adhere to designated routes, signage and trail markings, laws and compliance.

The anticipated outcomes of this program are: 1) increased connectedness and social wellbeing among High Fives athletes participating in R2D camps, thereby improving mental health and emotional resilience. 2) increased financial freedom among High Fives athletes, as they will not have to purchase expensive off-highway vehicles plus costly after-market adaptations in order to participate in off-road experiences, and 3) new knowledge and skills in off-highway vehicle safety, trail etiquette, and technical aspects of riding. At adaptive camps, we aim to introduce athletes to new sports and typically maintain a proportion of 50% first time experiences (new riders) at each camp.

R2D is one of five main pillars of sport of High Fives Foundation. Each pillar has been growing as far as the number of interested participants, types and frequency of adaptive sports camps offered, and geographic locations in which we can host camps and events. Our athletes continually emphasize how important these events and camps are for physical, mental/emotional, and social wellbeing (see *Section D-1, Question 2* for quotes). This project has long term sustainability and value because of our qualified staff of 16 incredible team members, our 17-member Board of Directors, 150+ volunteers annually, and a large social media presence. We have seen a 15% increase from 2022 to 2023 in applications to High Fives' program services. With a satellite office in Glenwood Springs, CO, we hope to grow R2D programming in and around Garfield County to be able to hold more R2D camps across the State of Colorado, all summer long, every year.

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

As mentioned earlier, Return to Dirt (R2D) was formed in 2018 and acquired by High Fives Foundation as a program service of the organization based on the program's success and alignment with High Fives' mission, vision, and values. High Fives now handles all the financing, planning, logistics, communications, transportation, coordination, documentation, and more for R2D experiences. Please see attached for Letters of Support from the R2D Program Coordinator and a past program participant as evidence of support from partners and our community. Below are quotes from recent past participants, demonstrating the impact and support of R2D Colorado:

"R2D is synonymous with freedom. The smell of the dust and pine, the roar of the engine, the thrill of drifting around corners and floating over rough road... it's the most freeing experience I've had since my injury." – Taylor F., High Fives athlete #39, spinal cord injury survivor

"The Return to Dirt camp was a game-changer to say the least. As a wheelchair user, uneven terrain can be extremely difficult to navigate and often is the limiting factor for participating in outdoor activities. The Return to Dirt camp completely flipped this notion on its head. Terrain immediately became an afterthought. Leaving my wheelchair behind and ripping down mountain trails was an indescribable, and honestly, transcendent experience. It definitely gave me a whole new perspective on what is possible. Reuniting with old friends and making a bunch of new ones was the icing on the cake. All in all, it was a pretty sweet day." – Ajay S., High Fives athlete #263, spinal cord injury survivor

"Return to Dirt gave me the opportunity to get out in nature and experience the trails in a way I never have before. The team is awesome and I'm stoked I got to be a part of it! All in all, it was a super fun experience and I can't wait til the next time." – Rocky B., High Fives athlete #349, spinal cord injury survivor

"My face hurts from smiling so much! It was so nice to be away from my wheelchair and cruising in the mountains and being so present. I especially enjoyed getting to know all the athletes and volunteers. So truly blessed Return to Dirt joined with High Fives. You all know how to make memories that pierce the heart with a smile! Much love!!!" – Ricci K., High Fives athlete #119, spinal cord injury survivor

In order to run the R2D program, we have received in-kind support from top UTV brands, CanAm and Polaris, for three side-by-side vehicles, and High Fives invested in a Ford pickup truck, a van, and two trailers for transportation of equipment and driving participants into OHV designated areas. We contract professional production companies (Alpine Media House and Generikal Designs) for photography and capturing video content of R2D camps. We have already received grants from Polaris T.R.A.I.L.S. and the Garfield County Human Services Commission for this project.

After a successful partnership with Muc Off, who provided cleaning and vehicle maintenance products worth \$5,000 to R2D in 2022 and 2023, we plan to partner with them again in the future. In a typical year, we receive in-kind product donations for R2D ranging from apparel, gear, and food/drinks from top brands such as Spy Optic, GoPro, YETI, Eddie Bauer, Darn Tough Socks, XTRATUF, Monster Energy, Zbroz Racing, SureGrip, EFX Tires, and more. As these items are typically donated, they are not included in our project budget. In-kind volunteer support by the High Fives community is typically 20-30 volunteers per year.

Project expenses included in this grant request:

- Program coordination (5% of Program Coordinator annual salary): \$2,607
- Educational videos (1-year production company contract): \$10,000
- Supplies (project supplies, meals): \$5,686
- Fuel and applied vehicle costs @ 2.5% of total annual cost): \$5,272
- Total = \$23,565

High Fives are not aware of any controversy that this proposed project has caused in the local community and does not anticipate this being an issue in the future.

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

The R2D Colorado 2025 project has two main objectives: 1) bring individuals with life-changing injuries to otherwise inaccessible areas of the Colorado wilderness for OHV experiences at no cost to them, and 2) create captivating and educational videos that demonstrate trail stewardship, minimize impact to natural resources, and amplify the availability of our program services to the State of Colorado.

Beyond the entertaining and educational videos that help mitigate impacts to resources by emphasizing the importance of obtaining proper titles and annual registration of OHVs, the following is a list of some values upheld during R2D experiences:

- Adherence to all trail signage
- Riders on trails only and on open, designated routes to minimize impact to terrain
- Minimize single-use plastic to reduce waste
- "Pack it out, pack it in" (leave the campsites cleaner than we found them)
- Minimize campfire impacts
- Emphasis on making the entire wilderness accessible through our program

NEW Trail Construction vs. Major Trail Re-Route

Trail construction is not part of High Fives' proposal, so this section is not applicable.

Large Equipment Purchases, Maintenance and Disposition:

Large equipment will not be purchased with OHV funding, so this section is not applicable. High Fives Foundation oversees maintenance, repair, storage, registration, and upkeep of our fleet of side-by-sides and all other vehicles used for this project, such as trailers for transporting equipment.

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

Travel Management:

Travel management is outside the scope of this project, so this section is not applicable. Our educational videos will show respect for the natural resources in the project area and increase compliance by demonstrating adherence to registration requirements, laws, signage, trail markings and designated routes, leading by good example.

Education

Our educational videos will benefit OHV riders, area visitors, and residents by revealing the accessibility and inclusivity of OHV use in Colorado while promoting safe, compliant riding. High Fives Foundation has a large social media following and a broad reach that keeps expanding and ensures visibility: we have 45,500+ subscribers on our email campaigns, almost 35,000 followers on Instagram, and our Facebook has over 17,700 follows. As an example of the success of our video campaigns, our B.A.S.I.C.S. (Being Aware, Safe In Critical Situations) program was created as a way to engage young athletes to promote smart decision-making in the mountains. In the form of short, PSA-style videos, this National Ski Areas Association (NSAA)-approved, free online series is available to everyone from school-aged children to industry professionals. This program has more than 730,000 views.

Our project videos are professional, compelling, and cinematic owing to the talents of two of our dedicated production companies: Generikal Designs and Alpine Media House. The video component of this project focuses primarily on educating the public on several topics relevant to the modern-day OHV user, narrated in the voice and from the perspective of experience dirt bike riders with engaging and informative content. This makes our videos unique and resonate well with the off-roading community—they are entertaining just as they are educational.

Some of the safety topics noted in these videos include:

- Trail Safety and Etiquette
- Pre-Ride Checklist: Know Your Gear
- Navigation: How to Find Riding Areas, Mapping, Using GPS
- How To Help: Get Involved

Beyond the video component specifics, High Fives ensures safety by maintaining an average 3:1 ratio of adaptive riders to mentors, OHV experts, and volunteers at R2D trips. Because participants range in abilities from first-time experiencers to seasoned riders, this ratio is crucial and typical of R2D programming in years past.

Enforcement and Compliance Activities:

As described throughout this section, High Fives believes that our established presence and reach will increase the awareness of and engagement with the priorities of the Colorado Off-Highway Vehicles program. This project will improve compliance through sharing videos of safe, responsible, and permissible OHV use, while simultaneously increasing the number of individuals who can participate in OHV experiences who previously faced barriers to access. By removing the financial strain on program participants, leading by example with vehicle registration, following designated routes, and showing which trails are more accessible to individuals with adaptive needs, we can increase diversity, equity, and inclusion within the national forests of Colorado.

D-2

Land Acquisition Grant – Supplemental Criteria

An Off-Highway Vehicle Grant Application requires supplemental information for land acquisitions, land leases, or easement purchase proposals.

A plan is required to be eligible for funding from the State Trails Program. Applicants are encouraged to apply for a Planning Grant from the Recreational Trail Program or the Off-Highway Vehicle Program *before* submitting a land acquisition proposal.

Land Acquisition Grant Applications require a presentation to the State Trails Committee.

If you have any questions on the requirements, please contact State Trails' staff *prior* to submitting your application.

Please respond to each section, being sure to identify which question you are answering. Use your own paper with *one-page per section or up to four pages total*. Please respond in 12-pitch font. Evaluating a project without the following information is difficult, so failure to respond to sections may reduce a project's score.

Eligibility Criteria and Acquisition Costs Acceptable for Reimbursement

- Only costs to acquire land, land leases or easements
- The purchase must be a fair market valuation
- Appraisals and legal fees
- An environmental review of the subject property
- Land surveys
- Transaction costs
- Property interest must be secured and controlled for a minimum of 25 years

Ineligibility Criteria and Acquisition Costs Unacceptable for Reimbursement

- Site development
- Acquisitions that involve condemnation
- Insurance (except Title Insurance)
- Any work that is not directly relevant to trail development or acquisition
- Facilities that are ornamental and/or do not have a direct benefit to trail users
- Any applicant that is not in compliance with the terms and/or conditions of a prior and/or **existing** grant from the State Trails Program

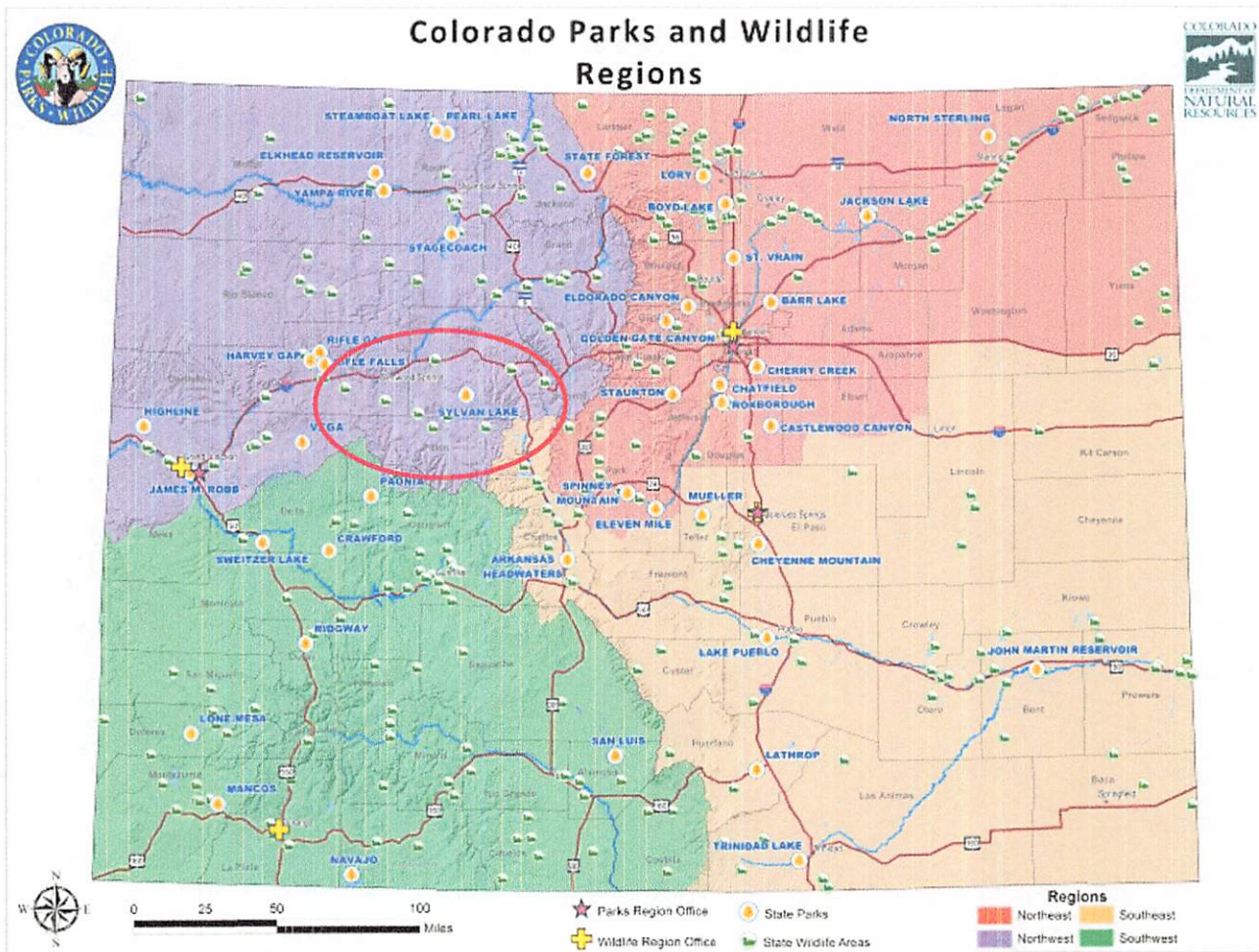
High Fives' project is not a land acquisition, land lease, or easement purchase proposal, so this section is not applicable.

E-1 Vicinity Map & E-2 Project Site Maps

Maps being requested include:

- "General area" (vicinity) map. (E-1)
- A drill-down of that map that shows the *specific* "project vicinity". (E-2a)
- Another drill down map showing specific trails and/or work area (highlighted). (E-2b)

E-1 Vicinity Map: Please mark the vicinity where the project is located on the map below.

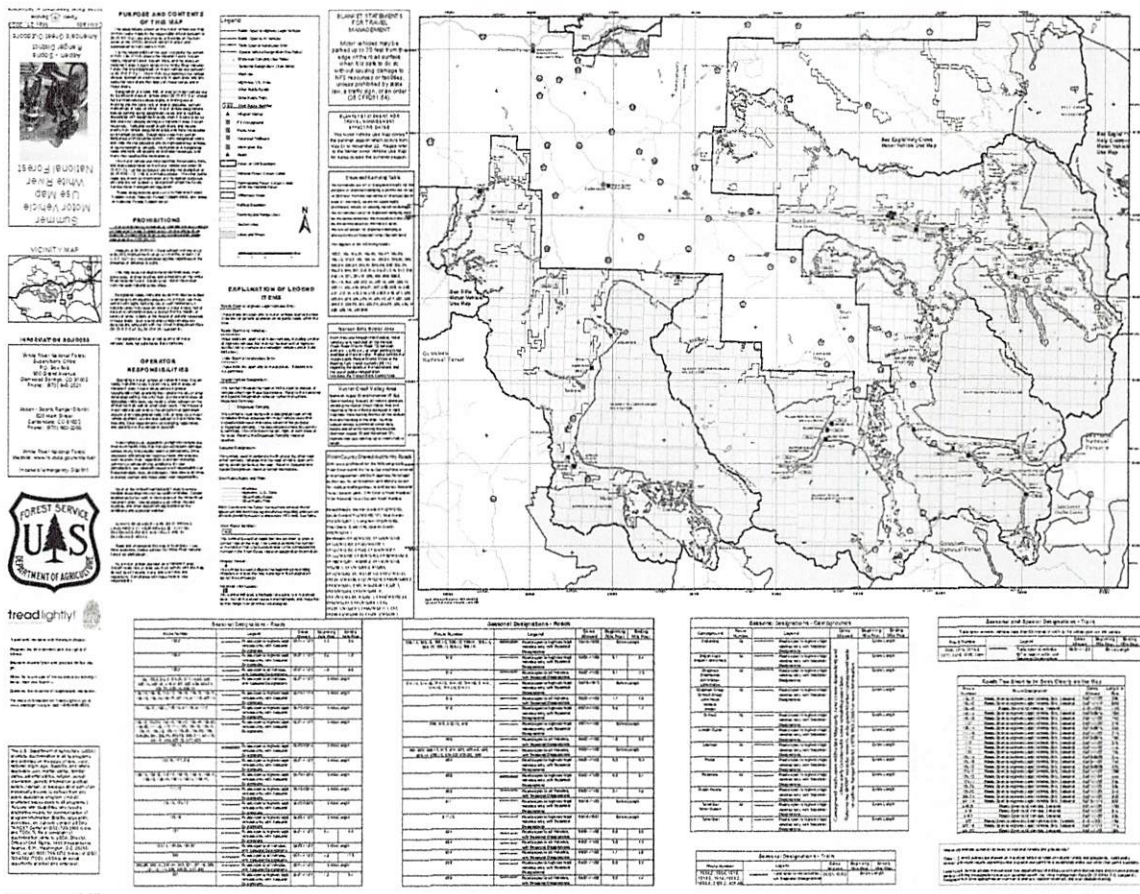


E-2 Project Maps: Please provide a map identifying the specific trail-work area or project site.
(Make 12 copies to include in your application packet)

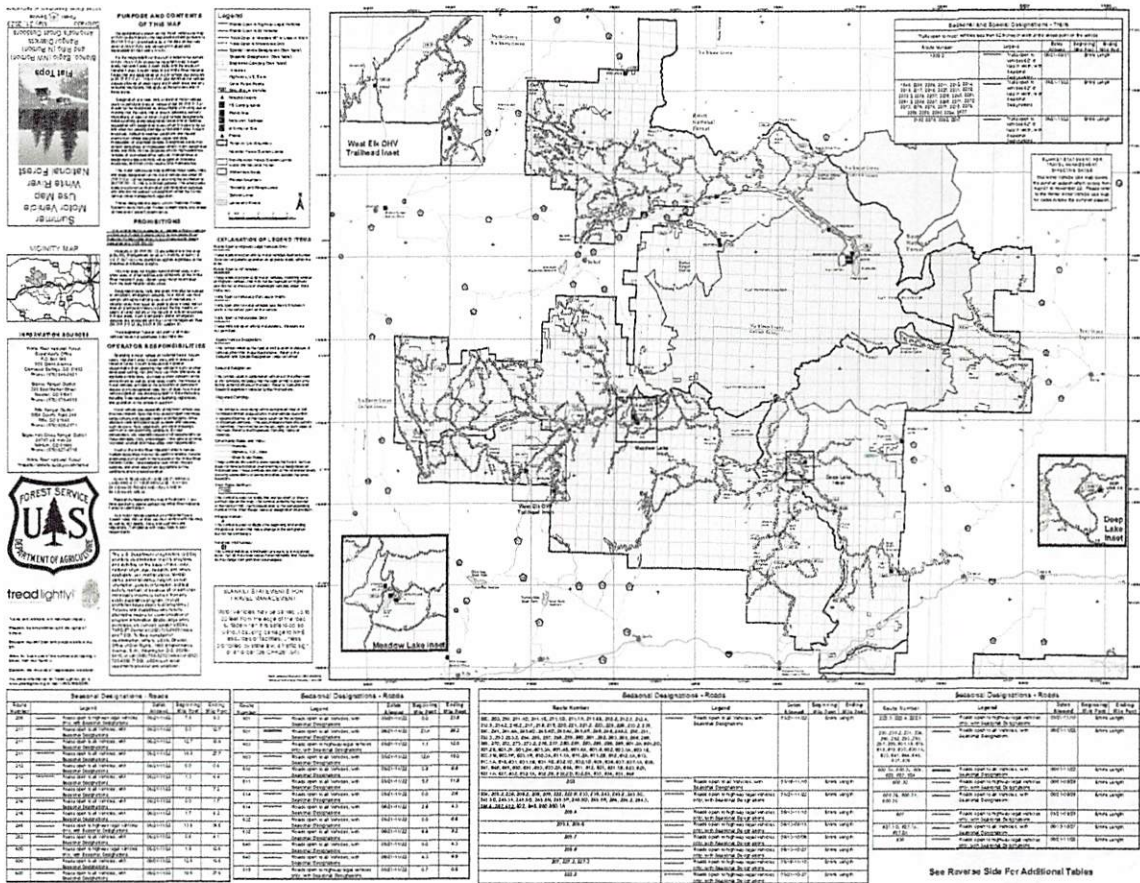
1:24,000 scale map OR a Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM)
That clearly shows roads, trails, streams, management area boundaries, and other significant natural and developed features in the vicinity of the project.

All maps are accessed through the USDA Forest Service website, via the White River National Forest Summer Motor Vehicle Use Maps.
(<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/whiteriver/home/?cid=stelprdb5328680>)

Below is a map of the White River National Forest summer motor vehicle use areas.



The map below shows the Flat Tops Wilderness Area summer motor vehicle use areas.



See Reverse Side For Additional Tables

(F) Project Illustration

Photographs, Drawings, Engineering Plans, Diagrams

Provide project illustrations or photos to further demonstrate the needs of the project.

Items to consider including may be:

- Photos (4-6) of the project area or photos of another project's outcome that illustrates what you will do for this project
- Engineering drawings of the project
- Diagrams/plans of the project

Below are images from High Fives Foundation's Return to Dirt programs from 2021-2023.





(G) Letters of Project Support

Provide up to six (6) letters of support from entities that are supporting the project in ways other than cash or in-kind contributions. Letters should come from at least three of the categories listed below. Letters must be current, and must document the need and demand for the proposed project. Please note, identically worded form letters do not sufficiently fulfill this requirement. All letters must be included with the application. Letters mailed directly to the State Trails Program will not be accepted as letters of support for the application, rather they will be treated as public comments on the project as proposed.

- Adjacent land owners
- Federal, county, city and private land owners
- Individual users or user groups
- Partners and/or cooperators

Please see attached for letters of support from 1) Jarred Evans, High Fives athlete #216 and multi-year R2D participant, and from 2) Tim Burr, High Fives athlete #78, R2D founder, and High Fives' R2D program coordinator.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Off-Highway Vehicle Program
13787 South Hwy 85
Littleton, Colorado 80125

November 17, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

Good day to you! My name is Jarred Evans, and I am High Fives athlete #216 and a participant and mentor of Return to Dirt.

In 2004, I suffered a serious spinal cord injury of my C5-C6 vertebrae while surfing in Santa Monica, CA, resulting in paralysis from the chest down. This near-death experience was life-changing in many ways and revealed the essential elements of the recovery process throughout my healing journey.

Outdoor activities have always been a huge part of my life for physical, mental, and spiritual health, and that's still true to this day. Since I became a High Fives athlete in 2018, I've been able to regain accessibility to outdoor recreation again in a safe, supportive environment. Returning to sport after a life-changing injury is like being able to rediscover your identity.

I've participated in Return to Dirt camps since 2019. It's an awesome way to unplug, get out into nature on accessible and inclusive trail systems, take high-powered vehicles on long, windy tracks, and continue to inspire one another. One of the most rewarding parts of these trips is the sense of community. Getting to connect with other adaptive athletes and find social support among those who can truly empathize with my life experiences is a gamechanger.

These important camps increase the quality of life and sense of independence among athletes with life-changing injuries. And, these off-road vehicles are truly the only way members of the SCI community can get deep into nature, well off the concrete sidewalks and experience its majesty and beauty. I'm thrilled at the prospect of expanding Return to Dirt further into new spaces in Colorado so that more adaptive athletes can experience the healing powers of off-road adventures!

This letter is in recognition of my full support of High Fives Foundation as they apply to the Colorado Off-Highway Vehicles Program this year. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions for me.

Sincerely,

Jarred Evans

jarredevans7@yahoo.com

Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Off-Highway Vehicle Program
13787 South Hwy 85
Littleton, Colorado 80125

November 29, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

Good day to you! My name is Tim Burr, and I am the founder of Return to Dirt (R2D) and High Fives athlete #78.

In 2014, I suffered a serious spinal cord injury at the C5 level while backcountry skiing that left me paralyzed from the shoulders down. My number one recovery goal has been to reintegrate into the sports and activities that I loved pre-accident. I believe that we all face setbacks and challenges in life, and by shifting your outlook and taking action, you can achieve whatever you set your mind to. Immobility is only a perspective. It doesn't have to be a limit.

I founded R2D in 2018 as a way to enable individuals with life-changing injuries to access adaptive off-road equipment, safety training, and instruction for navigating backcountry trails that may otherwise be inaccessible because of mobility impairment or socioeconomic barriers. For many of our participants, adaptive equipment is the only way to experience nature, considering that natural settings are almost never wheelchair accessible. It's also way for adaptive athletes to connect with like-minded individuals and explore the beauty of the great outdoors in an exciting and adventurous way.

Since 2018, R2D has created nearly 250 off-highway experiences for individuals with adaptive needs to become leaders in their own adventure. After several successful years of R2D x High Fives Foundation adaptive camps hosted in Colorado and California, R2D officially became a program service of High Fives in the spring of 2022. Now, we are so excited to further expand this essential program into the great state of Colorado, my home. This development will no doubt improve the physical, mental, emotional, and social wellbeing of countless adaptive athletes while educating adaptive athletes on responsible exploration of public land.

Consider this letter to be in recognition of my full commitment to support High Fives Foundation as they apply to the Colorado Off-Highway Vehicles Program this year, further expanding R2D to meet the growing needs and demands of this program. Please feel free to get in contact if you have any questions for me.

Sincerely,

Tim Burr

Tim Burr
tim@highfivesfoundation.org