

Gunnison County Stewardship Fund

LOI Request Overview

- 1. Crested Butte Mountain Bike Association:**
Project: 2024 Crested Butte Conservation Corps
Funding Requested: \$30,000
- 2. Gunnison Trails:**
Project: 2024 Professional Trail Crew
Funding Requested: \$40,000
- 3. Crested Butte Land Trust:**
Project: Gunsight Bridge Abutment Armoring Project
Funding Requested: \$10,000
- 4. Gunnison Ranger District USFS:**
Project: Janitorial Service Contract for Public Restrooms
Funding Requested: \$40,000



Crested Butte Mountain Bike Association

2024 Crested Butte Conservation Corps

Request: \$30,000.00

Anticipated Start:

Anticipated Completion:

Region

Submitted: 01/17/2024

Project Contact:

David Ochs

Executive Director

PO Box 782

Crested Butte, CO 81224-0782

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(970) 349-7324

Organization Primary Contact:

Crested Butte Mountain Bike Association

Executive Director: David Ochs

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Crested Butte, CO 81224-0782

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<https://crestedbuttemountainbike.com>

Organization Type: 501(c)(3) nonprofit

EIN: 68-0512218

UEI:

Overview

Project Name*

2024 Crested Butte Conservation Corps

STOR Committee Nomination Contact Person*

David Ochs

Organization Type*

Please indicate your organization type.

501(c)(3) nonprofit

Narrative Questions

Need*

Describe why the project is a priority.

Increased visitation, trail maintenance backlogs, natural impacts, and limits of the local ranger district to address trail and recreation issues compound each season. Partnering with the Gunnison Ranger District, BLM, municipalities, and other open space partners and agencies, the CBCC has been at the forefront of sustainable trail and resource management in the Upper Gunnison Valley since 2017. Maintenance and stewardship on trails and public lands continue to represent a significant need in the Gunnison Ranger District. In addition, increased visitorship to these areas necessitates frequent monitoring and maintenance of these trails and public lands, including the 208 dispersed campsites distributed throughout the Upper Gunnison Valley. Continuing to protect the resource as well as providing a quality user experience to locals and visitors is a priority for our crews and the community.

Location*

Describe where the project is located. Specify all land ownership types.

The project is located in the northern part of the Gunnison Ranger District in the drainages that surround the Towns of Crested Butte and Mt. Crested Butte, and Crested Butte South. These include Kebler Pass, Slate River, Washington Gulch, Gothic, Brush Creek, Cement Creek, and Taylor/Spring Creek drainages, an area roughly 433 sq. miles. The lands that the CBCC will work on include federal, state and municipal lands, and conserved private lands.

Goals and Objectives*

List the specific goals and objectives the project will accomplish and identify how they support the goals outlined in STOR's Strategic Plan (outlined below).



- A. *Promote a sustainable, resilient community that supports thriving natural ecosystems and native wildlife resources; a vibrant rural and ranching culture, and a diverse recreation economy.*
- B. *Foster a culture for residents and visitors that demonstrates an ethic of environmental stewardship and respect for our community.*
- C. *Support collaboration between federal land management agencies, state and local government, nonprofits, and user groups to improve management of recreation and natural resources.*
- D. *Minimize degradation of natural resources and enhance accessibility of recreational amenities by focusing recreational development close to population centers with transit connection and emphasizing conservation and wildlife habitat preservation in outlying areas.*

The CBCC's goals and objectives for 2024 are:

- Partner with federal, state and local land managers, local non-profits, and other stakeholders to provide sustainable stewardship of system trails and recreation amenities, including designated camping infrastructure.
- Create and maintain a network of high quality, sustainable trails for all users to access and enjoy, providing access to the public and conserved lands in the Upper Gunnison Valley.
- Provide stewardship, education and information with our CBCC crews out on the trails and public lands personally reaching as many users as possible.
- Use progressive trailbuilding methods to ensure the protection of the resource, as well as provide the best user experience possible.
- Respond to needs and support required from partners including the USFS, BLM, CB Land Trust, Town of Crested Butte, Town of Mt. Crested Butte, STOR partners, and local stakeholders and land managers.

Methods

In a succinct narrative or bulleted-paragraph format, describe the specific steps your organization, consultants, or contractors will take to achieve each individual goal or objective.

In 2024, the CBCC will employ six full time crew members throughout the full season (mid-May through November), adding two part-time crew members from July through August. Collaborating with staff, the Executive Director, and county-wide partners, CBCC crews will identify impacts on system routes and recreation areas. They will devise plans to address issues such as downed trees, user impacts, and natural erosion, ensuring necessary maintenance and improvements. We will use sustainable trail building methods to ensure that any work performed on existing trails as well as any new trails is of the highest quality and with an eye towards the future. The overarching objective is to work closely with partners to enhance recreation infrastructure, fostering a sustainable future and delivering high-quality user



experiences. CBCC crews serve as a tangible 'boots on the ground' presence and a reliable resource for assisting partners and stakeholders, contributing to the pursuit of sustainable tourism and recreation.

Adding the part-time crew members from July through August, CBCC crew members will maintain a presence at busy trailheads and parking areas, and help educate users by providing information in regard to parking, access, camping, and quality experiences.

In addition to the routine and specialized trail work they will do throughout the season, the CBCC will also work in conjunction with the Gunnison Ranger District staff to conduct an inventory and develop plans for maintaining and monitoring designated camping infrastructure. Throughout the field season, CBCC crews will regularly visit sites, gathering data on individual site requirements and potential enhancements. Their responsibilities include cleaning services, enhancing site infrastructure, removing trash and mitigating impacts, and engaging with visitors and users.

Timeline

Provide an explicit timeline of the proposed work, listing key activity dates.

The Crested Butte Conservation Corps crews will begin active operations on public lands within the designated project area on May 15, working through the end of October, with the possibility of extending into November, contingent upon weather conditions. At the beginning of the season, from May 15 to June 30, the crews will concentrate on the removal of deadfall and downed trees resulting from winter winds and spring storms from trails, roads, and recreation access areas. Emphasis will also be placed on water mitigation and trail infrastructure enhancements to ensure sustainable improvements that endure throughout the season and beyond. As higher-elevation trails become free of winter snowfall, particular attention will be given to water mitigation and runoff management.

During the peak season, from July 1 - August 30, our focus will shift to high-use areas and intensive monitoring and maintenance of designated camping infrastructure, some sites requiring bi-weekly attention. In tandem with campsite monitoring, our crews will implement sustainable measures to address trail and resource impacts, ultimately elevating user experiences. In the last third of the season, from September 1 to the end of the season, our emphasis will turn towards comprehensive maintenance projects while maintaining vigilant monitoring and upkeep of the project area, aiming for lasting and impactful contributions.

Quantifiable Outcomes*

List 3-7 quantifiable outcomes of your proposed project.

Examples:

- *Brush clearing and treadwork along 3 miles of trail*
- *Removal of 80% of invasive species over 3 acres*
- *Involvement of 15 new volunteers and 10 returning volunteers*



- *A total of 200 youth corps hours worked*
- Cut and remove between 200 and 400 downed trees that impede trails, roads, trailheads, and campsites
 - Maintain and improve 50 miles of system trails including wilderness trails, hiking/horse trails, non-motorized trails, and motorized trails
 - Remove over 1,000 pounds of trash and micro trash from the project area
 - Reach over 1,000 visitors and provide a presence on public lands to help educate and improve user experiences
 - Build and maintain over 200 water mitigation structures and armor 200' of existing tread in need of sustainable improvements
 - Monitor and maintain over 1,200 designated camping sites

Environmental Compliance*

Briefly indicate whether all required environmental compliance and permitting for your project is complete. The NFF cannot fund any work that does not have all environmental compliance work complete at time of application. This includes NEPA as well as any other mandated compliance processes. Of note:

- *If all environmental compliance work is not complete, please stop working on this application and immediately inform your NFF contact to discuss the appropriate next steps.*

All required environmental compliance and permitting for this project are complete. CBMBA and the CBCC have a contract with the USFS/USDA to continue designated camping infrastructure improvements and upkeep.

Budget

Amount Requested from NFF*

This budget number is for the component of your project expenses that you are requesting to be covered by the Gunnison County Stewardship Fund.

\$30,000.00

Total Project Budget*

This budget number should reflect both the funds requested from the NFF Gunnison County Stewardship Fund and other matching project contributions.

\$259,052.00

Budget Narrative*

Describe the project's projected expenses and specify which expenses will be covered by your Gunnison County Stewardship Fund request. Describe any matching contributions (cash funds or in-kind services) that you will raise for the project.



The project's largest expense will be payroll for our crews, which we have budgeted at \$176,122. This is the amount that we are asking for the GCSF grant to help cover. In addition to this payroll expense, we have expenses for tools and equipment, insurance, general supplies, first aid supplies, vehicle fuel, vehicle maintenance, signs, uniforms and continuing education. We have applied for and will receive grants from Gunnison County Met Rec District, the Town of Mt. Crested Butte, and 1% for Open Space. We have applied for and hope to receive funds from Colorado Parks and Wildlife's Non-Motorized Trail Grants, and we will continue to diligently fundraise for the remaining amounts needed.

Applicant File Uploads

No files were uploaded





Gunnison Trails

Gunnison Trails' 2024 Professional Trail Crew

Request: \$40,000.00

Anticipated Start:

Anticipated Completion:

Region

Submitted: 01/18/2024

Project Contact:

Tim Kugler

Executive Director

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Organization Primary Contact:

Gunnison Trails

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Organization Type: 501(c)(3) nonprofit

EIN: 11-3785204

UEI:

Overview

Project Name*

Gunnison Trails' 2024 Professional Trail Crew

STOR Committee Nomination Contact Person*

Tim Kugler

Organization Type*

Please indicate your organization type.

501(c)(3) nonprofit

Narrative Questions

Need*

Describe why the project is a priority.

Since 2016, Gunnison Trails has supported a seasonal trail crew to expand our trail maintenance and stewardship work on trails and public lands across Gunnison County. Our trail crew averages over 4,000 hours of stewardship work each season. Outdoor, trail-based recreation has increased dramatically in the last decade while federal funding for our public land management agencies, those responsible for managing this increase in use and the resulting impacts, has decreased. This dramatic increase in outdoor, trail-based recreation and public land use has led to a sharp rise in negative impacts, including trail widening and increased erosion, campsites and parking areas expanding into native vegetation and an increase in trash and human waste on the landscape. Organizations like Gunnison Trails provide critical support to our partners at the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management helping to maintain and sustain these important public resources for generations to come.

Location*

Describe where the project is located. Specify all land ownership types.

We work in a variety of locations throughout Gunnison County. The vast majority of our work takes place on USFS and BLM public lands, although we occasionally maintain trails on Western Colorado University (State of Colorado) land, City of Gunnison and Gunnison County lands. We coordinate and work closely with our partners at the Gunnison Field Office of the BLM and the Gunnison National Forest for all work done on public lands.

Goals and Objectives*



List the specific goals and objectives the project will accomplish and identify how they support the goals outlined in STOR's Strategic Plan (outlined below).

- A. *Promote a sustainable, resilient community that supports thriving natural ecosystems and native wildlife resources; a vibrant rural and ranching culture, and a diverse recreation economy.*
- B. *Foster a culture for residents and visitors that demonstrates an ethic of environmental stewardship and respect for our community.*
- C. *Support collaboration between federal land management agencies, state and local government, nonprofits, and user groups to improve management of recreation and natural resources.*
- D. *Minimize degradation of natural resources and enhance accessibility of recreational amenities by focusing recreational development close to population centers with transit connection and emphasizing conservation and wildlife habitat preservation in outlying areas.*

Since 2016, our Professional Trail Crew has enabled Gunnison Trails to dramatically increase our capacity for stewardship work across our surrounding public lands. While we average over 1,000 volunteer hours on a variety of projects each season, our trail crew has greatly increased the areas where we are able to work and the skill set we bring to our partners. Outdoor recreation, specifically trail-based recreation, is a vital economic driver here in the Gunnison Valley. Trails and the lands on which they sit need a considerable amount of annual maintenance, from clearing deadfall and brushing corridor to clearing drainages to prevent erosion. Our work closely aligns with the goals outlined in STOR's Strategic Plan. Our work sustains and improves upon our motorized and non-motorized trail systems that are popular with visitors and locals alike. This work is critical to the resiliency of these important resources. Our trail head education days educate public land users on the importance of Leave No Trace and how to behave when exploring and enjoying the trails. We are a critical partner to our federal land management agencies, municipalities and other institutions when it comes to stewardship work, and we add considerable capacity each season while remaining flexible to tackle issues as they arise. Finally, much of our stewardship work focuses on trails, campsites and parking areas at Hartman Rocks, Signal Peak and trails in the West Elk and Fossil Ridge Wilderness areas, locations close to Gunnison where we see the majority of public use and associated impacts. For 2024, our goals and objectives are as follows:

Projects on the National Forest:

- clear and maintain 30 miles of trail on the Gunnison National Forest, including the Mill-Castle trail #450 in the West Elk Wilderness, the Henry Lake trail #429 and South Lottis Creek trail #428 in the Fossil Ridge Wilderness, the Little Mill trail #455 and the Lowline trail #438
- begin heavy maintenance along 10 miles of the Big Blue trail #232, including turnpike construction, installing backcountry trail markers, constructing check steps and rock water bars for drainage and removing a portion of barb wire fence
- assist the Gunnison Ranger District with heavy maintenance on the Canyon Creek trail #481
- assist with clearing and maintaining additional trails across the Gunnison National Forest that have a backlog of deferred maintenance needs, including trails in Wilderness



Projects on the BLM:

- serve as on-the-ground stewards during our trail head education days in the spring. Members of our trail crew will set up a tent and table with educational resources at the Hartman Rocks base area on either Saturday or Sunday as soon as trails open in the spring (trail closures at Hartman Rocks are based on conditions and open as soon as the area is free of snow and mud, typically mid-late April). April and May are the busiest months at Hartman Rocks and we typically see significant resource damage from the influx of trail users looking to recreate and camp. Our trail head educators will be both a physical presence to discourage negative behavior while also an educational resource for folks looking for info related to trail closures for wildlife, camping and trail navigation.
- assist the BLM in maintaining 45 miles of trail and 60 designated campsites at Hartman Rocks Recreation Area
- assist the BLM in minimizing impacts at campsites at Hartman Rocks through worm fence construction, signage installation and rock armoring
- align and build the final section of South Rim trail - 1 new mile of non-motorized trail in the Signal Peak area behind Western Colorado University
- maintain 20 miles of non-motorized trail in the Signal Peak area
- coordinate with the Gunnison County Habitat Restoration and Cheatgrass Coordinator, Western Colorado University, the Bureau of Land Management and the Gunnison Basin Sagebrush Ecosystem Alliance (GB SEA) to monitor and treat areas infested with cheatgrass at Hartman Rocks and Signal Peak
- lead volunteer work days with local residents, Western Colorado University students, the Gunnison High School MTB team and Gunnison Middle School students
- complete over 1,000 hours of volunteer trail work

Methods

In a succinct narrative or bulleted-paragraph format, describe the specific steps your organization, consultants, or contractors will take to achieve each individual goal or objective.

For the 2024 field season, Gunnison Trails will run a five-person trail crew. Four full-season (20 week) crew members will begin work as soon as the trails and campsites open at Hartman Rocks (typically mid-late April) and work through October. One half-season (10 week) crew member will begin work at the beginning of June and work through mid-August.

Our full season crew begins work as soon as the Hartman Rocks area is open for the season. Spring time at Hartman Rocks is extremely busy, with the majority of trails in the Signal Peak area closed until May to protect the Gunnison Sage Grouse and wintering wildlife and much of the high country still under snow. The full season crew will provide a boots on the ground presence during this busy time of year, cleaning trailheads and campsites and maintaining trails that have experienced erosion and drainage issues after the winter snow has melted. New for this season, members of our trail crew will setup at the Hartman Rocks base area or McCabe's trailhead on one or both weekend days during late April and early May as part of our trailhead education efforts. Spring is when we see the greatest use and influx of trail users and the



associated impacts out at Hartman Rocks, from increased trash and littering, camping and parking outside designated areas and congestion on the trails. Our presence at these busy trailheads will serve both as a reminder that we are there to care for the resource but also serve as an educational resource for visitors and locals looking for specific camping and trail information. Our trail crew will also assist the BLM in installing worm fence and boulders to hem in parking areas and campsites that have expanded into the sage brush. In May, our trail crew begins trail maintenance in Signal Peak, splitting time between work at Hartman Rocks and Signal Peak through May and June. By the end of June, the crew typically transitions to the high country (snow and weather permitting), working on a variety of projects on USFS lands, including trail clearing work on the Mill-Castle, Henry Lake, South Lottis Creek and Little Mill trails. Come late August and September, the trail crew splits time between trail work on the Forest and new trail construction in Signal Peak. The trail crew organizes and runs our weekly Trail Work Tuesday volunteer events throughout the spring and fall, as well as our volunteer dig days with our local student population.

Timeline

Provide an explicit timeline of the proposed work, listing key activity dates.

April - the full-season crew begins work as soon as Hartman Rocks is open for the season, serving as trailhead educators, maintaining trails, cleaning campsites and assisting the BLM with worm fence and rock boulder placement at problem campsites and parking areas.

May - trail maintenance begins in Signal Peak. Trail alignment work is finalized for the upper section of South Rim trail (1 mile). Trail maintenance work continues at Hartman Rocks.

June - the half-season crew member joins our full-season crew, working on trail and campsite maintenance at Hartman Rocks and in Signal Peak, and beginning to clear trails on Gunnison National Forest.

July/August - trail maintenance on USFS trails throughout Gunnison County, including heavy maintenance work on the Big Blue trail involving several 4-day overnight backcountry hitches and heavy maintenance work on the Canyon Creek trail. We also organize two days of stewardship work for incoming Western Colorado University freshmen/women in late August as part of the Headwaters Orientation class.

September/October - trail maintenance on USFS trails and at Signal Peak and Hartman Rocks. Begin construction of the final section of South Rim trail and lead several community volunteer dig days to complete the trail.

Quantifiable Outcomes*

List 3-7 quantifiable outcomes of your proposed project.

Examples:

- *Brush clearing and treadwork along 3 miles of trail*
- *Removal of 80% of invasive species over 3 acres*
- *Involvement of 15 new volunteers and 10 returning volunteers*
- *A total of 200 youth corps hours worked*



- observe and educate visitors to the Hartman Rocks area during the busiest weekends in the spring
- clear and maintain 45 miles of trail at Hartman Rocks, 20 miles of trail in Signal Peak and over 30 miles of trail on USFS lands
- assist our BLM with cleaning and maintenance of 60 campsites at Hartman Rocks
- assist the BLM in the construction of worm fence structures and installing rock boulders to harden parking areas and campsites at Hartman Rocks
- align and build 1 new mile of trail in the Signal Peak area, completing the upper portion of South Rim trail in the fall of 2024
- begin heavy maintenance work along 10 miles of the Big Blue trail, including turnpike construction, post-marker installation and drainage construction
- coordinate and lead 1,000 hours of volunteer work through our Trail Work Tuesday and Fall Dig Day events
- partner with Western Colorado University and Gunnison Middle and High School students on various trail maintenance and stewardship projects (averaging over 150 youth hours/year)

Environmental Compliance*

Briefly indicate whether all required environmental compliance and permitting for your project is complete. The NFF cannot fund any work that does not have all environmental compliance work complete at time of application. This includes NEPA as well as any other mandated compliance processes. Of note:

- *If all environmental compliance work is not complete, please stop working on this application and immediately inform your NFF contact to discuss the appropriate next steps.*

All trail maintenance and stewardship work on public lands is done in partnership and coordination with our federal agencies. For new trail construction projects in Signal Peak, NEPA for the Signal Peak Recreation Area Management Plan was completed 6/20/18.

Budget

Amount Requested from NFF*

This budget number is for the component of your project expenses that you are requesting to be covered by the Gunnison County Stewardship Fund.

\$40,000.00

Total Project Budget*

This budget number should reflect both the funds requested from the NFF Gunnison County Stewardship Fund and other matching project contributions.

\$129,000.00

Budget Narrative*



Describe the project's projected expenses and specify which expenses will be covered by your Gunnison County Stewardship Fund request. Describe any matching contributions (cash funds or in-kind services) that you will raise for the project.

Personnel - the majority of the costs associated with our trail crew program are crew member salaries. We have secured funding from the City of Gunnison and are in the process of applying for grants through the Gunnison County Metropolitan Recreation District, 1% For Open Space and Irwin Guides. NFF funds will be used to cover the salaries of our crew members, which are as follows:

Trail Crew Salaries and Wages:

Crew Leader 900 hours at \$29/hour - \$26,100

Crew Leader 900 hour at \$28/hour - \$25,200

Crew Member 800 hours at \$28/hour - \$22,400

Crew Member 800 hours at \$25/hour - \$20,000

Crew Member 350 hours at \$25/hour - \$8,750

Taxes - \$7,800

Total Personnel Costs (including taxes) - \$110,250

Supplies - \$14,100 (saws, tools, medical kits, personal protective equipment and uniforms). NFF funds will not be used to purchase supplies.

Travel - \$1,310 NFF funds will not be used to purchase fuel.

Applicant File Uploads

No files were uploaded





Crested Butte Land Trust

Gunsight Bridge Abutment Armoring Project

Request: \$10,000.00

Anticipated Start:

Anticipated Completion:

Region

Submitted: 01/18/2024

Project Contact:

Jon Mugglestone

Stewardship Director

308 3rd St.

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(970) 349-1206

Organization Primary Contact:

Crested Butte Land Trust

Executive Director: Mr. Jake Jones

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(970) 349-1206

www.cblandtrust.org

Organization Type: 501(c)(3) nonprofit

EIN: 84-1190830

UEI:

Overview

Project Name*

Gunsight Bridge Abutment Armoring Project

STOR Committee Nomination Contact Person*

Nick Catmur

Organization Type*

Please indicate your organization type.

501(c)(3) nonprofit

Narrative Questions

Need*

Describe why the project is a priority.

The Gunsight Bridge provides important public recreational access to federal and conserved lands in the Slate River Valley, and is in need of maintenance and protection from ongoing natural erosion and scouring that occurs during annual spring runoff events. Maintenance and armoring of the bridge abutments will ensure that Gunsight Bridge continues to provide ongoing & safe access for recreational users in the Slate River Valley.

This project proposes to protect the Gunsight Bridge abutments from ongoing erosion during spring runoff of the Slate River by armoring the bridge abutments with boulders. Consultation with a professional bridge engineer and contractor was completed in fall 2023 and this proposed project is 'shovel ready'.

CBLT envisions this proposed project as an initial phase in a series of projects anticipated to address maintenance & access issues and involve public & agency stakeholders in planning for recreational improvements on CBLT's Gunsight Bridge parcel.

Location*

Describe where the project is located. Specify all land ownership types.

This project is located along the Slate River where it passes through the Crested Butte Land Trust's fee-owned Gunsight Bridge parcel. The site is approximately 5 miles upstream from the Town of Crested Butte, and sits adjacent to neighboring federal lands managed by the BLM and USFS.



Goals and Objectives*

List the specific goals and objectives the project will accomplish and identify how they support the goals outlined in STOR's Strategic Plan (outlined below).

- A. Promote a sustainable, resilient community that supports thriving natural ecosystems and native wildlife resources; a vibrant rural and ranching culture, and a diverse recreation economy.*
- B. Foster a culture for residents and visitors that demonstrates an ethic of environmental stewardship and respect for our community.*
- C. Support collaboration between federal land management agencies, state and local government, nonprofits, and user groups to improve management of recreation and natural resources.*
- D. Minimize degradation of natural resources and enhance accessibility of recreational amenities by focusing recreational development close to population centers with transit connection and emphasizing conservation and wildlife habitat preservation in outlying areas.*

We believe the goals of this project align with the objectives outlined in STOR's Strategic Plan, as outlined below.

- A. Promote a sustainable, resilient community that supports thriving natural ecosystems and native wildlife resources; a vibrant rural and ranching culture, and a diverse recreation economy.

Gunsight Bridge provides a public recreational amenity that allows access to trail and river recreation for over 40,000 residents and visitors of the Gunnison Valley annually. The bridge provides safe access across the Slate River for recreational users who enjoy the Gunsight Bridge parcel's access to some of the most heavily-used river and trail recreation opportunities in the Gunnison Valley. Maintaining the Gunsight Bridge is not only important for providing safe, public recreational access, but is also critical to maintaining the hub of a trail infrastructure that has been designed to minimize disturbance from recreation in wildlife habitats, and to respect ranching operations in the Slate River Valley. By maintaining this trail infrastructure in safe condition, we hope to provide recreators the opportunity to 'stay the trail' in order to reduce their impacts to wildlife and riparian habitats and grazing operations.

- B. Foster a culture for residents and visitors that demonstrates an ethic of environmental stewardship and respect for our community.

Maintaining safe and functional trail infrastructure through the Gunsight Bridge parcel allows recreational users the opportunity to reduce their ecological impacts on adjacent natural systems and habitats. Providing public access to nature via a well-maintained trail system allows users to enjoy outdoor recreation while minimizing their ecological impact, and is one way that CB Land Trust promotes an ethic of environmental respect and stewardship.



C. Support collaboration between federal land management agencies, state and local government, nonprofits, and user groups to improve management of recreation and natural resources.

CBLT has actively engaged with numerous agency partners to discuss maintaining public access through the Gunsight Bridge parcel. Partners from the Bureau of Land Management, the US Forest Service, Town of Crested Butte and Colorado Division of Mine Reclamation have expressed their support for maintaining ongoing public access across CBLT's Gunsight Bridge parcel to adjacent federal and conserved lands where they have ownership and/or management authority.

D. Minimize degradation of natural resources and enhance accessibility of recreational amenities by focusing recreational development close to population centers with transit connection and emphasizing conservation and wildlife habitat preservation in outlying areas.

The Gunsight Bridge is truly a hub for public trail recreation on federal and conserved lands in the Slate River Valley, and provides safe access across the Slate River for users of some of the most heavily-used trails in the Gunnison Valley. Providing durable and well-maintained trail and recreational infrastructure that is accessible from the nearby Town of Crested Butte allows residents and visitors opportunities to enjoy access to recreation and nature, while keeping their impacts to adjacent habitats and grazing operations to a minimum.

Methods

In a succinct narrative or bulleted-paragraph format, describe the specific steps your organization, consultants, or contractors will take to achieve each individual goal or objective.

Consultation with a professional bridge engineer and designer of Gunsight Bridge (Canyon Bridge) and a contractor (Glacier Earthworks) were completed in fall 2023, and form the basis for this funding request. If funding is provided, we anticipate that the Gunsight Bridge Abutment Armoring Project will be implemented in fall 2024. This implementation will entail purchase, delivery and installation of boulders and permeable fabric against the abutments of the Gunsight Bridge in order to provide protection from ongoing scouring and erosion during annual spring runoff of the Slate River.

Timeline

Provide an explicit timeline of the proposed work, listing key activity dates.

Following delivery of materials to the site, we anticipate that implementation of the Gunsight Bridge Abutment Armoring Project will take 3 days of on-site work, which is proposed to be completed in fall of 2024.

Quantifiable Outcomes*



List 3-7 quantifiable outcomes of your proposed project.

Examples:

- *Brush clearing and treadwork along 3 miles of trail*
- *Removal of 80% of invasive species over 3 acres*
- *Involvement of 15 new volunteers and 10 returning volunteers*
- *A total of 200 youth corps hours worked*

1. Armor the 2 abutments of the Gunsight Bridge in order to ensure ongoing safe trail access across the Slate River for over 40K recreational users annually.
2. Maintain and protect an important recreational amenity, Gunsight Bridge, from the heavy natural impacts of annual spring runoff in the Slate River, which commonly exceeds 800 C.F.S.
3. Maintain a hub of safe trail connectivity across the Slate River to many heavily-used trails in the Slate River Valley, including the Gunsight Connector, Lupine, Coal Train, Lower Loop and Oh-Be-Joyful Trails.

Environmental Compliance*

Briefly indicate whether all required environmental compliance and permitting for your project is complete. The NFF cannot fund any work that does not have all environmental compliance work complete at time of application. This includes NEPA as well as any other mandated compliance processes. Of note:

- *If all environmental compliance work is not complete, please stop working on this application and immediately inform your NFF contact to discuss the appropriate next steps.*

CBLT completed all necessary permitting for construction of the Gunsight Bridge in 2018, and this proposed Gunsight Bridge Abutment Armoring Project is authorized under an Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit as Maintenance of the permitted bridge. CBLT staff has reached out to USACE regarding this project, and will comply with any additional permitting or requirements they may suggest.

Budget

Amount Requested from NFF*

This budget number is for the component of your project expenses that you are requesting to be covered by the Gunnison County Stewardship Fund.

\$10,000.00

Total Project Budget*

This budget number should reflect both the funds requested from the NFF Gunnison County Stewardship Fund and other matching project contributions.

\$20,000.00



Budget Narrative*

Describe the project's projected expenses and specify which expenses will be covered by your Gunnison County Stewardship Fund request. Describe any matching contributions (cash funds or in-kind services) that you will raise for the project.

A \$20,000 total project expense is anticipated for the Gunsight Bridge Abutment Armoring Project, based on engineering consultation and contractor estimate received in 2023. CBLT is requesting \$10,000 from the Gunnison County Stewardship Fund to cover half of this expense. Matching funds will be provided by CBLT (\$5000 cash) and other grant funded projects (\$5000 in-kind) aimed at supporting, maintaining and improving ongoing public access through CBLT's Gunsight Parcel.

Applicant File Uploads

No files were uploaded





Gunnison County Stewardship Fund

Janitorial Service Contract for Public Restrooms

Request: \$40,000.00

Anticipated Start:

Anticipated Completion:

Region

Submitted: 01/05/2024

Project Contact:

Nick Catmur

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Organization Primary Contact:

Gunnison County Stewardship Fund

200 E. Virginia
Gunnison, CO 81230-0000
(720) 670-6254

<https://www.gunnisoncounty.org/858/Sustainable-Tourism-Outdoor-Recreation-C>

Organization Type: Government (State or Local)

EIN:

UEI:

Overview

Project Name*

Janitorial Service Contract for Public Restrooms

STOR Committee Nomination Contact Person*

Dayle Funka

Organization Type*

Please indicate your organization type.

Government (State or Local)

Narrative Questions

Need*

Describe why the project is a priority.

The purpose of this project is to meet national quality standards for health and cleanliness for public recreation facilities (restrooms). It meets the goal for ongoing maintenance needs for land management agencies.

Use and demand of toilets facilities have increased in recent years, and new toilets have been added at new dispersed locations. This has correlated with an increase in both service frequency requirements and the travel time required to visit each location. During times of peak use in the summer months, some toilets need to be serviced up to three times per week.

Location*

Describe where the project is located. Specify all land ownership types.

The facilities for this need are those at fee-free areas located in the Crested Butte vicinity, on GMUG National Forest lands.

Goals and Objectives*

List the specific goals and objectives the project will accomplish and identify how they support the goals outlined in STOR's Strategic Plan (outlined below).

- A. *Promote a sustainable, resilient community that supports thriving natural ecosystems and native wildlife resources; a vibrant rural and ranching culture, and a diverse recreation economy.*
- B. *Foster a culture for residents and visitors that demonstrates an ethic of environmental stewardship and respect for our community.*



- C. Support collaboration between federal land management agencies, state and local government, nonprofits, and user groups to improve management of recreation and natural resources.*
- D. Minimize degradation of natural resources and enhance accessibility of recreational amenities by focusing recreational development close to population centers with transit connection and emphasizing conservation and wildlife habitat preservation in outlying areas.*

Provide routine janitorial services (toilet facilities cleaning) to include management, supervision, personnel, transportation, labor, equipment, and supplies to clean public toilet facilities managed by the USDA Forest Service, Gunnison Ranger District. Work consists of routine cleaning of nine double-vault restrooms located in the Crested Butte vicinity, up to three times per week.

This project helps achieve strategic plan items B, C and D.

Goal B- Clean restrooms on our forests demonstrates to our visitors and locals that we care about all of our facilities and that we want them to be used. Clean restrooms will limit the exposure to human waste left on the ground, less exposure to human waste will help foster a culture that our locals and visitors respect the outdoors and don't leave their waste behind.

Goal C - collaboration between STOR and the USFS is vital if we want to continue to provide regular maintenance needs to the on the ground facilities that have been a part of previous STOR initiatives. If STOR wants to continue to see more restrooms built on public lands it is important that they show the necessary support to the land managers responsible for cleaning them.

Goal D - Clean restrooms also help to limit the degradation of our natural resources, unmaintained public restrooms can quickly become unsanitary leading to people relieving themselves outside the restrooms and leaving human waste behind at campsite and trailheads.

Methods

In a succinct narrative or bulleted-paragraph format, describe the specific steps your organization, consultants, or contractors will take to achieve each individual goal or objective.

A contract will be executed between the NFF and a professional cleaning service. The cleaning service shall agree to service all associated restrooms at a 2-3 times per week interval between the months of June and October

Timeline

Provide an explicit timeline of the proposed work, listing key activity dates.

Request for Bids and contract March/April 2024. Duration of contract would be June through October 2024, with options for future years.

Quantifiable Outcomes*



List 3-7 quantifiable outcomes of your proposed project.

Examples:

- *Brush clearing and treadwork along 3 miles of trail*
- *Removal of 80% of invasive species over 3 acres*
- *Involvement of 15 new volunteers and 10 returning volunteers*
- *A total of 200 youth corps hours worked*

The outcomes of this project will be measured in terms of HEALTH AND CLEANLINESS, a key measure of National Quality Standards for Forest Service recreation sites. Primary outcomes and standards met through this project include:

1. Visitors are not exposed to human waste
2. Individual units and common areas are free of litter including domestic animal waste
3. Facilities are free of graffiti
4. Restrooms and garbage locations are free of objectionable odor
5. Constructed features are clean

Environmental Compliance*

Briefly indicate whether all required environmental compliance and permitting for your project is complete. The NFF cannot fund any work that does not have all environmental compliance work complete at time of application. This includes NEPA as well as any other mandated compliance processes. Of note:

- *If all environmental compliance work is not complete, please stop working on this application and immediately inform your NFF contact to discuss the appropriate next steps.*

Routine maintenance of recreation facilities is categorically excluded from further analysis under NEPA.

Budget

Amount Requested from NFF*

This budget number is for the component of your project expenses that you are requesting to be covered by the Gunnison County Stewardship Fund.

\$40,000.00

Total Project Budget*

This budget number should reflect both the funds requested from the NFF Gunnison County Stewardship Fund and other matching project contributions.

\$40,000.00

Budget Narrative*



Describe the project's projected expenses and specify which expenses will be covered by your Gunnison County Stewardship Fund request. Describe any matching contributions (cash funds or in-kind services) that you will raise for the project.

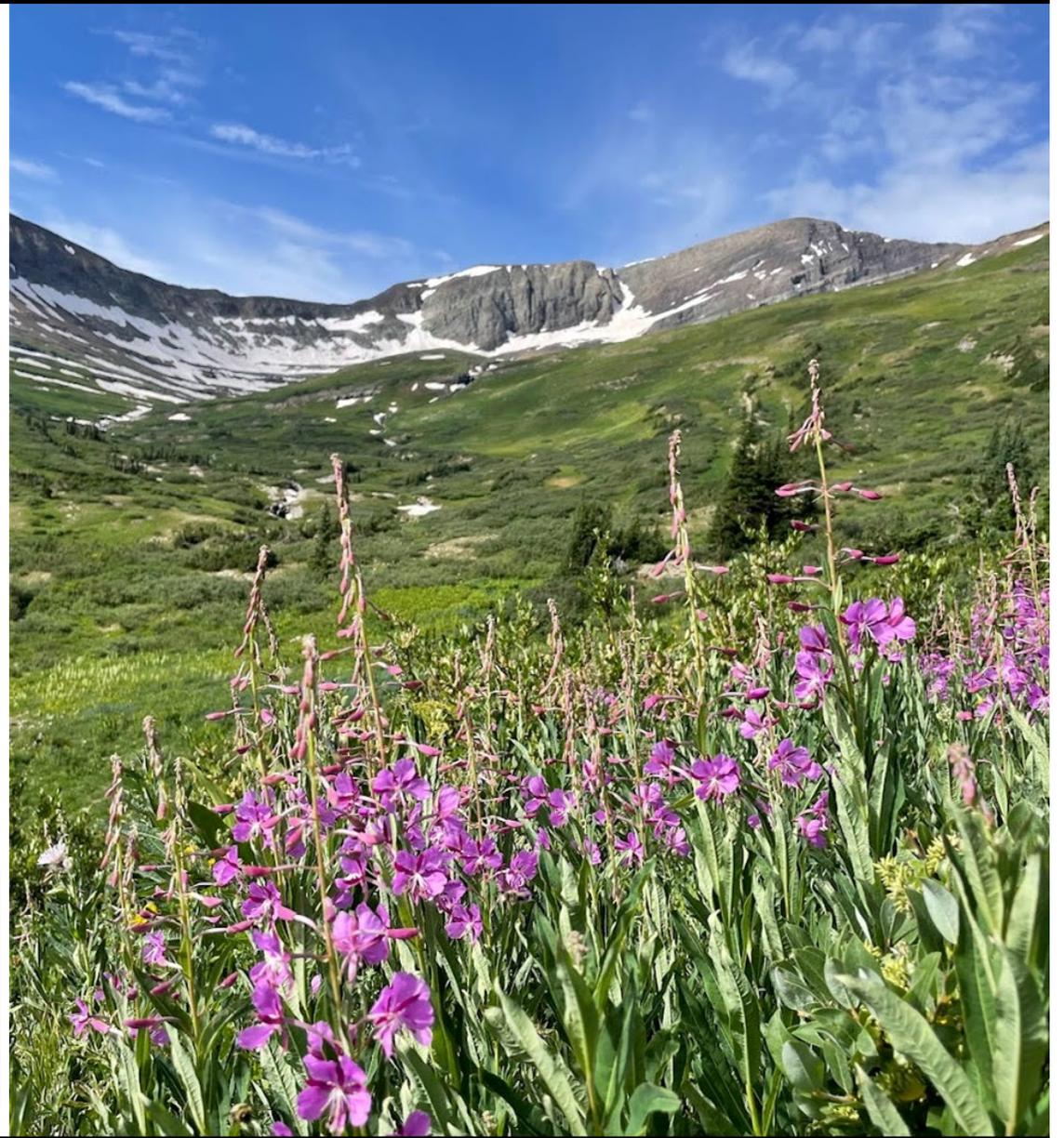
Project expenses include transportation, labor, equipment, and supplies. \$40,000 is based on a "price per cleaning" estimate of \$75.

Applicant File Uploads

No files were uploaded



Gunnison County Stewardship Fund



What:

Working in alignment with the STOR Committee this fund is dedicated to supporting local organizations focused on sustaining and enhancing Gunnison County's public and conserved lands.

Funded projects should also proactively protect our fund partners stated community values:

- *A caring community*
 - *An engaged community*
 - *Connected to nature*
 - *A learning community*
 - *A good life*
 - *A healthy and active lifestyle*
 - *Family Friendly*
 - *A secure community*
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General Selection Criteria

- Project is a priority of the land management entity where the project will take place.
 - Project aligns with the values of the Gunnison County community as established by the One Valley Prosperity Project that led to the creation of the STOR Committee.
 - Project aligns with the STOR Committee strategic plan.
 - Project is designed, to the extent possible, to benefit all public lands in Gunnison County.
 - Project has all environmental and cultural compliance completed, including NEPA.
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STOR Committee Strategic Plan

1. Promote a sustainable, resilient community that supports thriving natural ecosystems and native wildlife resource; a vibrant rural and ranching culture, and a diverse recreation economy.
 2. Foster a culture for residents and visitors that demonstrates an ethic of environmental stewardship and respect for our community.
 3. Support collaboration between federal land management agencies, state and local government, nonprofits, and user groups to improve management of recreation and natural resources.
 4. Minimize degradation of natural resources and enhance accessibility of recreation amenities by focusing recreational development close to population centers with transit connection and emphasizing conservation and wildlife habitat preservation in outlying areas.
-

Funding Partners

Jay Whitacre, **Eleven/Irwin Guides**

Derrick Nehrenberg, **Met Rec**

David Gosen, **Mt Emmons Mining Company**

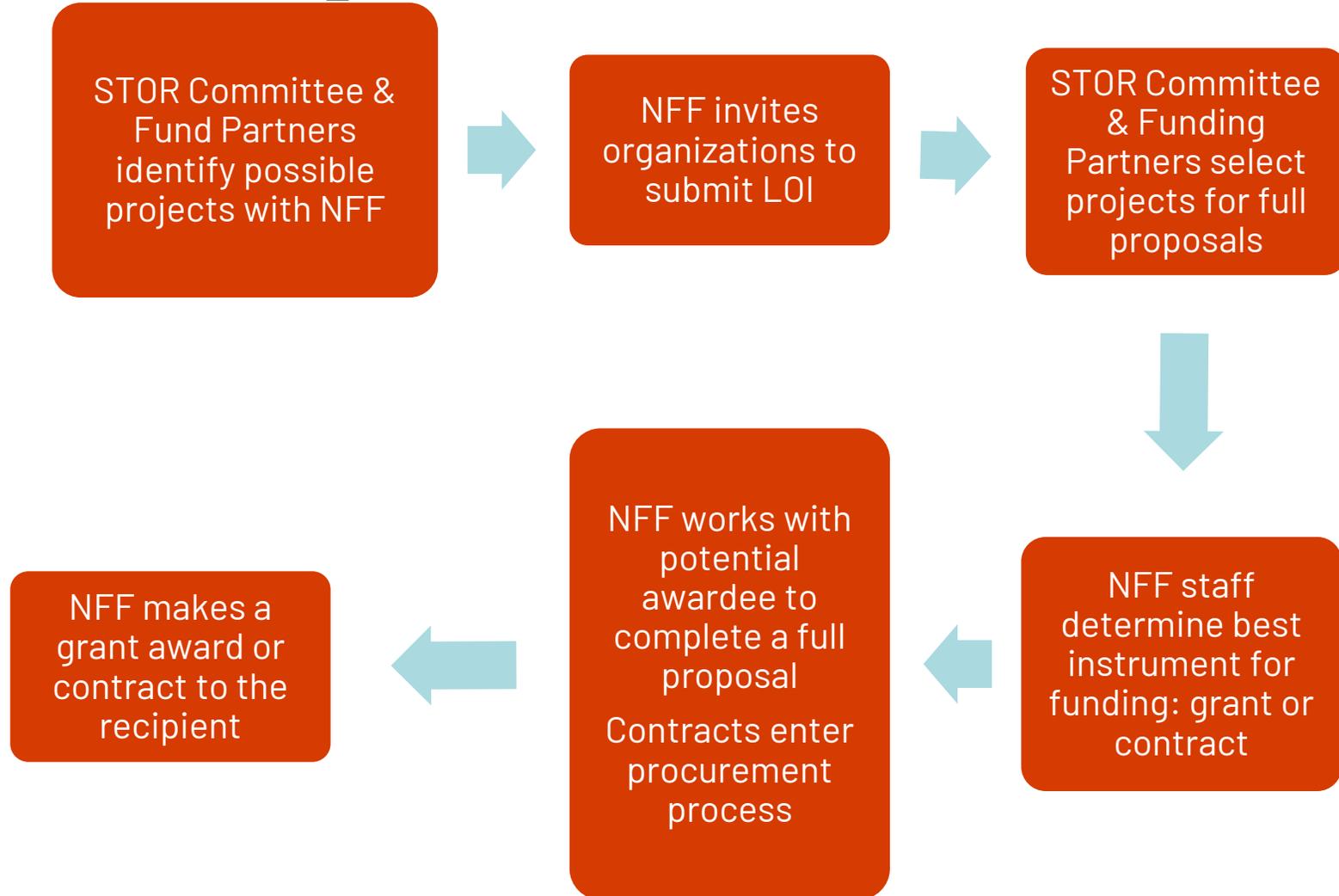
Mark Voegeli/Steve Duke, **Crested Butte Mountain Resort**

Salar Nabavian, **Gunnison Energy**

Christian Allen, **Elevation Hotel & Spa**

Carollynn Cherry, **Scenic River Tours**

Funding Process



What we are doing today

- Select which projects should receive funding and submit full proposals.
- Recommend funding amounts for individual projects.

Fund Balance

The Gunnison County Stewardship Fund received 4 proposals for a total funding ask of **\$120,000**. Current funds available are approximately \$135,000

Project Proposals:

Gunnison Trails:

Project: 2024 Professional Trail Crew **-\$40,000**

Crested Butte Mountain Bike Association:

Project: 2024 Crested Butte Conservation Corps **-\$30,000**

Crested Butte Land Trust:

Project: Gunsight Bridge Abutment Armoring Project **-\$10,000**

Gunnison Ranger District USFS:

Project: Janitorial Service Contract for Public Restrooms **-\$40,000**

Project #1: Gunnison Trails' 2024 Professional Trail Crew

Applicant: Tim Kugler - Gunnison Trails

Amount Requested: \$40,000

Description: For the 2024 field season, Gunnison Trails will run a five-person trail crew. Four full-season (20 week) crew members will begin work as soon as the trails and campsites open at Hartman Rocks (typically mid-late April) and work through October. One half-season (10 week) crew member will begin work at the beginning of June and work through mid-August. Along with the trail maintenance, new trail construction, and campsite maintenance that this crew has been dedicated to in the past, this year the professional trail crew will be committing one or both weekend days during late April and early May to trailhead education and outreach. This outreach will be done at the main Hartman Rocks base area and the McCabe's trailhead.

Gunnison Trails aims to coordinate heavily with the USFS and BLM to clear and maintain some of the most heavily used singletrack in the Gunnison area, monitor and maintain the 60 designated campsites at Hartman Rocks, provide education and outreach during the busiest days at Hartman Rocks, construct worm fencing to mitigate camping impacts, construct 1 mile of new trail at Signal Peak, and coordinate with Gunnison County Habitat and Restoration to monitor and treat areas infested with cheatgrass.

Project #2: Gunsight Bridge Abutment and Armoring

Applicant: Jon Mugglestone – Crested Butte Land Trust

Amount Requested: \$10,000

Description: The Crested Butte Land Trust identifies the Gunsight Bridge as a pivotal piece of infrastructure in providing public access to recreation opportunities located on both federal and conserved lands. This project will provide the necessary maintenance and armoring of the two abutments for the Gunsight Bridge so that it can continue to provide safe access to these recreation opportunities. This implementation will entail purchase, delivery and installation of boulders and permeable fabric against the abutments of the Gunsight Bridge in order to provide protection from ongoing scouring and erosion during annual spring runoff of the Slate River.

The total budget for this project is \$20,000, if funds are awarded the CBLT will be providing a 1:1 match of 10k to fully fund the project.

Project #3: 2024 Crested Butte Conservation Corps

Applicant: Dave Ochs – Crested Butte Mountain Bike Association

Amount Requested: \$30,000

Description: For the 2024 season the CBCC will employ six full time crew members throughout the full season (mid-May through November), adding two part-time crew members from July through August. CBCC crews will identify impacts on system routes and recreation. They will devise plans to address issues such as downed trees, user impacts, and natural erosion, ensuring necessary maintenance and improvements. The overarching goal of the CBCC is to coordinate closely with local land management partners to enhance and maintain the expanse of recreation infrastructure surrounding Crested Butte and to foster a sustainable future with high quality experiences. With the additional part time crew members this season, the CBCC will be operating seven days a week from early July through mid August. Weekends during this time will be allocated to monitoring and maintaining the 208 dispersed campsites around Crested Butte with a focus on stewardship education and camping regulations. In conjunction with an expanded presence during the busiest part of the season the CBCC will continue to be a flexible partner in the maintenance of the extensive network of single track trails surrounding Crested Butte.

Project #4: Janitorial Service Contract for Public Restrooms

Applicant: Dayle Funka/Matt Quinn - USFS

Amount Requested: \$40,000

Description: The purpose of this project is to secure a service contract for the cleaning and stocking of public toilets located within the Gunnison Ranger district and in close proximity to Crested Butte. With the increase in the number of toilets and their usage a service contract is the only way to ensure that these facilities meet the national quality standards for health and cleanliness for public restroom facilities. During the busiest parts of the summer some toilets need to be serviced up to three times a week to meet these standards.

If funded, funds will be used to secure a contract with a service provider that shall agree to service the 15 associated restrooms at an interval of 2-3 times per week during the months of June and October.

Clean facilities help ensure they are used by the public, decreases the amount of human waste left on the landscape, and ensures trash is not left behind inside the facilities.

Funding Recommendations

1. **Gunnison Trails**: Requested \$40,000;
2. **CBLT**: Requested \$10,000;
3. **CBMBA**: Requested \$30,000;
4. **U.S. Forest Service**: Requested \$40,000;

Available Funding: \$135,000
