

Mid Valley Trails Committee Agenda

August 24th 2023

7:30am

1340 Main Street Carbondale, CO 81623 – RFTA Office

INVITED ATTENDEES

- George Trantow – MVTC Chair
- Phillip Ring – MVTC Treasurer
- Alan Luu - MVTC Member
- Perry Kleespies – MVTC Member
- Temple Glassier – MVTC Project Manger
- Rebecca Schild – Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers
- Michelle Daniels – Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers
- Mike Pritchard, Roaring Fork Mountain Bike Association
- Karin Offield, Roaring Fork Valley Horse Council
- Michelle Thibeault, Town of Basalt Planning Director
- Angela Henderson, RFTA
- Brett Meredith, RFTA
- Jud Lang, RFTA
- Abbey Pascoe, RFTA
- Sarah Faichney, RFTA

AGENDA

1. Review and approval of previous month's minutes
2. Updates from MVTC Partnerships
 - Roaring Fork Mountain Bike Association (RFMBA) Update – Mike Pritchard
 - Update on Crew's Maintenance work this season and projected work for the rest of the season.
 - Roaring Fork Valley Horse Council (RFVHC) Update – Karin Offield
 - Update on TSPP project. See attachments D8-D9
 - Basalt Parks, Open Space and Trails (POST) Update – Michelle Thibeault
 - Construction and trail plan progress updates.
 - Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers (RFOV) – Rebecca Schild
 - Nany's Path Project
 - Update on Stewardship work to date
 - RFOV Project Selection Process. See attachments D1-D7.

3. New Business

- Discuss outcome of the August 17th budget meeting

4. Action Items

RFVHC – UPDATE FOR THE AUGUST 24, 2023 MEETING

There may be included some answers to any questions that our Invoice for this year's work in the Mid Valley answers:

1. We used the Voss website for cost projections on several different size sign orders. We are calculating this is a two-year project, as Basalt Mountain Trails and Glassier Open Space may be chosen for new signage next year. Most likely we will be using our local sign companies for product. This year, the Rio Grande Trail, and Light Hill / Emma Open Space trails are the areas for our attention.

2. Specifically, the \$4800.00 invoice is for the three projects this season: "Light Hill with BLM", "the leased property of the Emma Open Space PC OST (where the signposts are needed to keep folks on a trail), and the "Rio Grande Trail RFTA in the area of the mid valley, before Pitkin County takes over management duties." BLM; RFTA; PC OST & Eagle County have been contacted.

3. Buying 25 signs at a time we felt was a safe choice because we don't know how many signs any one land manager would need or allow. Currently, the numbers are completely speculative until we get a land/trail manager to collaborate with us on actual specifics. Discussion on the size of signage is on-going.

4. We have several land management teams in several areas to work on this with us, so each part of the educational sign and wayfinding budget is shared, including our labor costs. Some teams will and can supply their own labor.

5. The hikers and trail riders coming from Light Hill and onto Emma Open Space continue to become lost or dead - ended on the leased Emma agricultural land. Two Roots Farm – Harper Kaufman asked if some signage (we suggest: carsonite signs and decals) could be installed, so we are taking this fix to Pitkin County for approval. The signpost and decals for wayfinding should solve that problem. The new connection point of the Light Hill Trail through Emma Open Space to the Rio Grande Trail across the new Home Supply Ditch solves this wayfinding confusion.

6. The "labor" line item is the labor cost to be split between all the areas, and we factored in a work week of 5 days, but each project may only take a half day to one day each. Generally we work with Rocky Mountain Youth Corps (RMYC), and we'd like to schedule out one more week with them this year, if not then in spring 2024.

7. A final item not yet mentioned is the RFVHC's initiative that the RFVHC and RMYC take care of graffiti nuisances when occasions arise. Teaching the young crews, the importance of Leave No Trace is a bedrock principle for our trails use. We want to use this initiative for educational purposes – for everyone.

INVOICE #100

Roaring Fork Valley Horse Council

Box 127, Snowmass, Colorado 81654
970-948-2151 or 561-301-7818

DATE**BILL TO**

Mid Valley Trails Committee

Care of: sfaichney@rfta.com

PHONE

FOR

Trails Safe Passing Plan (TSPP)
RFVHC Directional Signs and Trail
Signs

Details**AMOUNT**

Carsonite Posts (20)

\$560.00

Fed Rec Decals

\$300.00

Voss Custom Trail Signs (25)

\$418.00

Shipping Costs TBD

(\$150.00 TBD)

Equipment costs

\$1,278.00

Labor RMYC Teams

\$2,800.00

OTHER

TBD

TOTAL

\$4,228.00

If you have any questions concerning this invoice, use the following contact information:

Karin Reid Offield 561-301-7818

Thank you for Keeping Horses on Trails !



Request for Community Project and Trail Crew Project Proposals

2024 Project Season

Deadline: September 30, 2023

ABOUT RFOV

RFOV promotes stewardship of our public lands by engaging the community in education, restoration, and conservation projects. We work on roughly 60 different project sites annually in four counties: Pitkin, Eagle, Garfield, and Gunnison with a diversity of volunteers, youth, and paid professional staff. Since 1995, we have completed over 700 stewardship projects in four different counties: Pitkin, Eagle, Gunnison and Garfield. Detailed below are our primary programs:

Community Projects: Each year, we offer 15-25 public volunteer events open to all community members. Projects are one to seven days in duration and typically involve 25 to 85 volunteers each.

Group Projects / Adopt-A-Trail: RFOV offers customized stewardship projects for over 50 groups a season. This program is designed around team building, service, and business or organization recognition. Groups can take this opportunity further and make an annual commitment to adopt a trail.

Young Stewards Programs (YSP): Our goal is to motivate and inspire local youth with first-hand knowledge of the significant role they have to play in taking care of our great landscape. We offer fun, educational and satisfying outdoor service experiences grounded in the greater context of conservation education and stewardship principles. We partner with local schools, youth-focused non-profits, and faith organizations to reach over 1,000 students aged 5-18 annually.

Trail Crew: RFOV's professional Trail Crew, composed of 3-5 members, works independently of volunteer programming to complete projects that are long-term, technical, or otherwise not an ideal fit for volunteer projects.

This form is specifically requesting proposals for Community Projects and Trail Crew projects. If you have suggestions for the other program areas, you can list them on the last page. We will also reach out again in the spring to request projects for our Group & Youth Projects.

Please return this proposal to:
Melissa Daniels | Program Director
mdaniels@rfov.org

Community Project Proposal

CRITERIA FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS

We are looking for a diverse portfolio of projects suitable and appealing to our extensive volunteer community. We select projects using the following criteria:

- A balanced spread of projects that fit under our Sustainable Recreation, Fire, and Restoration categories.
 - Sustainable Recreation. Examples: tread repair, drainage structure installation and maintenance, corridor trimming, rock & other natural material structures (steps, walls, turnpikes, etc), structure maintenance and installation (bridges, benches, kiosks, etc.)
 - Healthy Landscapes. Examples: planting, seeding, barbed wire removal, erosion control, seed collection
 - RFOV prioritizes invasive species removal projects that meet **at least one** of the four following criteria. In addition to these criteria, control/removal plans must follow current scientific knowledge and best practices. 1) Target species is a Colorado A-list noxious weed, 2) Invasion is threatening a sensitive species/habitat, 3) Population has a realistic chance of eradication, *or* 4) Land manager has a follow up plan to seed or plant after removal to create a higher quality ecosystem that will be resistant to re-invasion
 - Fire Adaptation. Examples: vegetation thinning/clearing, post-fire erosion control, post-fire revegetation
- A balanced spread geographically and seasonally within our service area of Independence Pass to Parachute, Glenwood Canyon to Marble.
- A mix of easy, moderate, and strenuous projects
- Benefit and impact to our community
- Project funding already secured, although this is not a requirement. Hosting a community project typically costs RFOV between \$3,500 and \$6,000. Land managers are not required to contribute that entire amount.

BENEFITS OF BEING SELECTED

If your project is selected, RFOV commits to recruiting and mobilizing professional staff and volunteers to accomplish the identified objectives and scope of work. RFOV coordinates all volunteer recruitment and registration, logistics and food/beverages, supplies a fleet of tools, and highlights the project in our publications. RFOV can also help in the project planning itself, including needs assessment, mapping and quantifying proposed work, creating site plans, staging, acquiring materials, etc. and serving as technical advisor for the project. RFOV can add additional value through user education and other interpretive materials for the public.

REQUIREMENTS FROM PROJECT PARTNER

We ask partners to clearly articulate their goals and objectives for the project and schedule at least one site visit with our staff. In almost all cases, partners are asked to attend the event to serve as a technical advisor, provide oversight in decision-making, and educate volunteers and participants. Partners are also required to help market the event and acknowledge RFOV in communications. Though we do not require that project partners provide funding, any direct funding or grant opportunities are an important factor in our decision-making.

Organization Contact Information

Organization Name	
Contact Person	
Contact Phone	
Contact Email	
Organization Website	
Organization Mailing Address	

Please fill out one table for each proposed project

Project Proposal Information

Project Name	
Project Location	
Project Type <i>(Healthy Landscapes, Sustainable Recreation, Fire Adaptation - see above for descriptions)</i>	
Land Managers - who owns/manages this project site? Are there special permitting requirements or permission that needs to be given?	
Project Length (# hours, days)	
Project Timing (month)	
Project Difficulty (easy, moderate, strenuous, very strenuous)	
Is there funding for this project? If so, how much?	
Other partner contributions (design, logistics, volunteers, etc.)	
Approximate number of volunteers needed	
Project Description	
Types of users of the trail, open space, or project area	

Educational Opportunities	
Level of priority for your agency (how it fits into your master plan, helps you accomplish your mission, etc)	

Trail Crew Project Proposal

CRITERIA FOR TRAIL CREW PROJECTS

We select projects for the Trail Crew using the following criteria:

- Although the Trail Crew is most specialized in trail projects within our Sustainable Recreation domain, they are also available to work on Healthy Landscapes and Fire Adaptation projects.
 - Sustainable Recreation. Examples: tread repair, drainage structure installation and maintenance, corridor trimming, rock & other natural material structures (steps, walls, turnpikes, etc), structure maintenance and installation (bridges, benches, kiosks, etc.)
 - Healthy Landscapes. Examples: planting, seeding, barbed wire removal, erosion control, seed collection
 - RFOV prioritizes invasive species removal projects that meet **at least one** of the four following criteria. In addition to these criteria, control/removal plans must follow current scientific knowledge and best practices. 1) Target species is a Colorado A-list noxious weed, 2) Invasion is threatening a sensitive species/habitat, 3) Population has a realistic chance of eradication, *or* 4) Land manager has a follow up plan to seed or plant after removal to create a higher quality ecosystem that will be resistant to re-invasion
 - Fire Adaptation. Examples: vegetation thinning/clearing, post-fire erosion control, post-fire revegetation
- The Trail Crew is generally working on backcountry wilderness projects from late-June to mid-September and are available for additional projects, as proposed through this process, from early-May to late-June and again from mid-September to mid-October.
- The cost of the 4-5 person trail crew for a 40-hour week (four 10-hour days) is around \$6,500. Unlike most RFOV programming, we don't currently have the ability to cover these costs through grants and other funding. If you are interested in having the trail crew work on your projects but do not have funding to cover these costs, we are open to working with you to explore alternative avenues to additional funding.
- We prioritize projects that have a strong benefit and impact to our community.

REQUIREMENTS FROM PROJECT PARTNER

We ask partners to clearly articulate their goals and objectives for the project and schedule at least one site visit with our staff.

Organization Contact Information

Organization Name	
Contact Person	
Contact Phone	
Contact Email	
Organization Website	
Organization Mailing Address	

Trail Crew Project Proposal Summary

Total desired length of time (number of 10-hour days)	
Do you have complete funding for the desired length of time? <i>See notes and description above.</i>	

Please fill out one table for each proposed project

Project Proposal Information

Project Name	
Project Location	
Project Type <i>(Healthy Landscapes, Sustainable Recreation, Fire Adaptation - see above for descriptions)</i>	
Land Managers - who owns/manages this project site? Are there special permitting requirements or permission that needs to be given?	
Project Length (number of 10-hour days)	
Project Timing (month)	
Project Description	
Level of priority for your agency and if applicable, in comparison to your other proposed Trail Crew projects	

Other Priority Sites / Projects

If you have project ideas that may not align with our public Community Projects or the Trail Crew but are better suited for our Group Project, Adopt-a-Trail, or Youth Programs, please provide the details below. This will allow us to align our programming and calendar as closely as possible with your priorities.