

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO)
1900 Grant Street, Suite 725
Denver, CO 80203

Subject: Letter of Support for Eagle County and VVMTA's Outdoor Stewardship Partnership Grant Application

Dear GOCO Grant Committee,

On behalf of the {insert town/county name here}—we express our strong support for Eagle County and the Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance's (VVMTA) grant application to Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO). This request will provide essential resources to create the Outdoor Stewardship Partnership initiative, a crucial effort to protect and sustain our public lands.

Public lands in Eagle County provide tremendous recreational, economic, and ecological value to our communities. However, with increasing visitation, our trails, open spaces, and watersheds face significant pressures. This initiative will directly address these challenges by expanding the Trail Conservation Crew (TCC) and creating the Outdoor Stewardship Crew (OSC), ensuring much-needed on-the-ground stewardship, restoration, and sustainable recreation management.

Additionally, our federal land managers—including the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM)—are facing significant budget and staffing reductions, creating even greater uncertainty in their ability to manage and maintain the public lands that are vital to our communities. These funding shortfalls further reduce the “boots on the ground” necessary for essential stewardship efforts, increasing the urgency for local and regional partnerships to fill the gap. This initiative will directly support USFS and BLM by providing critical stewardship capacity that would otherwise be lacking.

Through collaboration with local governments, land managers, and community organizations, this initiative aligns with our municipalities' commitment to preserving natural resources, maintaining recreational access, and fostering environmental responsibility. By supporting this grant, GOCO will help strengthen stewardship efforts across jurisdictions, ensuring the long-term health of Eagle County's outdoor spaces for both residents and visitors.

We fully support Eagle County and VVMTA's grant application and urge GOCO to invest in this transformative project. Thank you for your consideration.

Signed by the following municipalities and county representatives in support of this effort:

[Name]

[Title]

[Municipality Name]

[Name]
[Title]
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