

2024-2025 Short-Term Projects Outcomes

MEMO

To: Executive/Budget/Audit Committee
Chair: Jeff Silvestrini, Co-Chair: Erin Mendenhall, Treasurer and Secretary: Christopher F. Robinson

CC: Laura Briefer, Salt Lake City Public Utilities

From: Sam Kilpack, Director of Operations
Lindsey Nielsen, Executive Director
Ben Kilbourne, Communications Director

Subject: 2024-2025 Short-Term Projects Outcomes

Date: August 11, 2025

At the end of the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the CWC disbursed a total of \$100,000 for 13 Short-Term Projects Grants for projects to be implemented during the 2024-2025 fiscal year. These projects have now been completed, with a few exceptions. The outcomes and status for each project are outlined below.

Utah Open Lands / Park City Municipal: Bonanza Flat Conservation Area Accessible Trail (\$5,000)

This project created an accessible trail on Bonanza Flat Conservation Area and the Aspen Programming Patio, which included grading and paving for accessibility, creation of 5 accessible parking spots, interpretive signage, and restoration around the deck.



Salt Lake Climbers Alliance: Alpenbock Documentary Film (\$5,000)

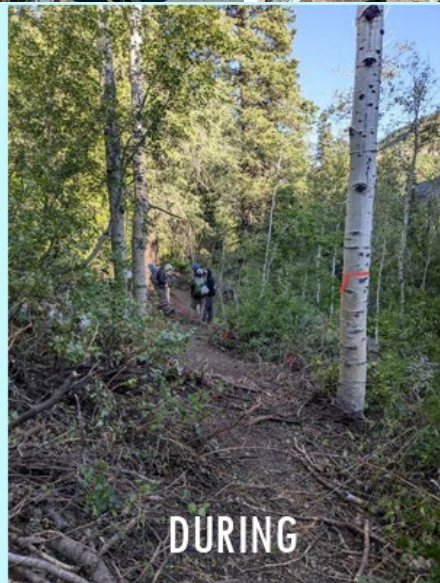
This ongoing effort is expected to be completed in early 2026 and will result in a short narrative film celebrating the early climbing history in the Cottonwoods and highlighting the importance of preserving and stewarding the Wasatch canyons. The CWC grant supported pre-production, filming interviews with original Alpenbock Club members, and gathering footage of historical climbing locations.

Save Our Canyons: Conservation (Education and Outreach) Program (\$15,000)

Through this program, Save Our Canyons engaged over 100 volunteers in nearly 3,000 hours of service removing over 800 pounds of trash and 1,000 pounds of invasive weeds. They supported fuels reduction efforts with the Forest Service across 5,000 acres and hosted 25 events to engage the community in experiential learning about air quality, watershed protection, wildfire risk, and sustainable recreation.

Cottonwood Canyons Foundation: Trail Maintenance and Plant Stewardship Program (\$20,000)

Plant Stewardship: CCF surveyed 205 miles of trails, surveyed and mapped 133 acres of weeds, treated 115 acres of weeds, and restored 1 acre of seedlings. They engaged 364 volunteers across 25 days for a total of 1092 volunteer hours. *Trail Stewardship:* With 20 crew members and 333 volunteers, CCF built 4100 feet of new tread, 26 retaining walls, 9 staircases, 84 steps, 5 stream crossings, 35 new drains, and set 335 tons of rocks. They also scouted 94 miles across 42 trails and naturalized 25,289 square feet of land.



CWC Youth Council: Community Gear Shed (\$6,000)

The Outdoor Access Committee of the CWC Youth Council built a community gear shed that functions as a lending library for recreators who may not otherwise have access to (often expensive) outdoor equipment. Housed at the Mobile Moon Co-Op on the west side of Salt Lake City, the shed was fully constructed and stocked with 80 items for climbing, camping, backpacking, and more.



Summit Community Gardens - EATS: Environmental Sustainability Education Program (\$10,000)

This program brought “seed to soil lessons” to 14 schools and 2,000 children in Summit County. Lessons teach students how to compost, build healthy soil, protect native ecosystems. Lessons also focus on waste reduction, water conservation, responsible land management, and sustainable food systems. Funds also helped build a new compost center with educational signage.

Wasatch Backcountry Alliance: Backcountry Shuttle (\$15,000)

The Backcountry Shuttle continued to provide micro-transit service to popular backcountry locations in Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons on Saturdays during the ski season. WBA expanded its operations to provide access directly to White Pine, Cardiff Fork, and Spruces. This season the user experience has been improved by the launch of a new reservation app and inclusion the CWC’s Ski Bus Priority Access Program.



Salt Lake Climbers Alliance: Fixed Anchor Maintenance on Wasatch Rock Climbing Routes (\$5,000)

CWC funds helped support over 1,700 hours of field work conducted by trained Salt Lake Climbers Alliance anchor technicians to replace fixed anchors across key Wasatch canyons. In total, 902 fixed anchors were replaced or maintained along 155 routes, including 106 anchors in Big Cottonwood Canyon and 97 anchors in Little Cottonwood Canyon.

CWC Youth Council: Outdoor Film Festival (\$1,800)

The CWC Youth Council's Events and Outreach Committee hosted an Outdoor Film Festival in partnership with The Front Climbing Club. The Front provided the venue and supported advertising and promotion efforts spearheaded by the committee. The festival was well attended and featured xx films from local filmmakers and recreators that showcased the variety and quality of world-class recreation opportunities afforded by the Central Wasatch and the need to protect and preserve it. Funds supported the venue rental, catering, and other snacks and equipment rental.



The following projects have been delayed and have been given extra time for completion. Additional details can be found in the May 19th memo titled 2024-2025 Short-Term Projects Implementation Delays.

Trails Utah: White Pine Bridge Trail Erosion Repair (\$5,000)

Forest Service engineers evaluated building a new bridge in an adjusted location. Now they have come back to the original Salt Lake Ranger District proposal to just extend the existing bridge. Originally expected to be completed in September 2024, the current estimate is now September 2025.

Trails Utah: Pipeline Trail Extension (\$15,000)

After the project was funded, the Forest Service engineers determined that construction would best be handled in conjunction with scheduled FLAP construction in the area, which just began in May 2025. Originally, the project was to be completed in September 2024 before the start of the FLAP construction; the current estimate is now September 2025.

Utah Open Lands: Transit to Trails Expansion to the Wasatch Front (\$10,000)

Delayed: The project's administrator was unable to reach key jurisdictional partners in time to complete the project on schedule, but able to reach Cottonwood Heights, but plan to continue efforts and work toward a pilot program starting up around July 15th and work to get Sandy, Salt Lake County and Cottonwood Heights on board in advance of that.