

Name of project:	Safe Passage for Wildlife along Park City's SR 224 Corridor
Funding questions: 1. What is the estimated total cost of the project? 2. How much are you requesting from the CWC? 3. How much funding are you or your organization committing to the project? 4. How much funding are you requesting from others?	1. \$165,000 2. \$20,000 3. \$45,000 4. \$100,000
Please list your (non-funding) community partners for this project, including in-kind support, if any:	Since we are in the discovery phase of this project, our community partners are: Rock Design Associates, UDOT, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Summit County, and Park City Municipal Corporation. Once we have developed a recommended path forward, various other community partners are positioned to support the implementation and outreach/education efforts.
Please list your potential funding partners for this project, if any, including the amount of funding requested from each, and whether the funding has been secured:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LivePCGivePC 2025: \$79,000 (in total, but \$45,000 directed towards this specific initiative) • John C. Kish Foundation 2025: \$50,000 • Sydney Stern Foundation: \$3,000 • Louis and Gladys Foster Family Foundation: \$5,000 • Vail Resorts/Park City Resort: Gifts in Kind to promote support • Park City Community Foundation: \$500
I have carefully reviewed this application for accuracy and completeness. I understand that late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes

Use the space below to answer the following questions. *Please be as detailed as possible.*

1. Provide an outline, broken out by category, of how you plan to use the funds. Categories may include, but are not limited to: materials, labor, marketing/promotional materials, and transportation/fuel.

See Attached. **SR-224 Wildlife Connectivity Project – Phase 2 Budget**

2. Provide a detailed timeline for your project. Be sure to include the anticipated start date, all important steps and milestones, and the anticipated end date.

Project Timeline: Park City Connectivity SR-224 Wildlife Camera Study

The Phase 1 Report, completed September 30, 2025, established the foundation for this work — covering site assessment, stakeholder workshops, species surveys, existing conditions, and a regional review of mitigation precedents.

January 15, 2026 – Camera Study Launch Cameras deploy at priority locations along SR-224 between Mile Markers 7–9, including the McLeod Creek culvert and McPolin Farm Trail tunnel, to document whether existing structures are being used by wildlife to cross the corridor. Still images and video are stored in a managed database and reviewed by a qualified wildlife biologist.

January – March 2026 – Winter Baseline Data Collection Captures species behavior during high-snow, low-traffic conditions — including moose habitat use, which occurs year-round in portions of the corridor.

March 15 – April 30, 2026 – Spring Migration Monitoring A high-priority window for wildlife movement across SR-224. Camera data during this period will help identify crossing pinch points and inform future infrastructure decisions.

Spring 2026 – Habitat and Fence Line Surveys Field teams conduct visual roadside surveys for tracks, scat, game trails, and browse evidence, following identified trails to understand how wildlife navigates to and from the roadway.

June – August 2026 – Mid-Study Review. With six months of data collected, the project biologist conducts a preliminary analysis of species presence and movement patterns across the corridor.

September – October 1, 2026 – Fall Migration Monitoring and Study Close. The second major migration window. Data collected through October 1st captures the fall movement of deer, elk, moose, and other species using the corridor and concludes the minimum 12-month study period recommended in the Phase 1 Report.

Late Fall 2026 – Phase 2 Summary Report Synthesizes the full camera dataset and field findings into actionable recommendations, directly informing next steps on fencing improvements, wildlife detection systems, and longer-term crossing infrastructure. Findings will also support grant funding applications and ongoing coordination with UDOT and Utah DWR — particularly given increasing development pressure and the approaching 2034 Winter Olympics.

3. Is there anything else you'd like us to know about your project?

See below for more detailed project description and project summary documentation attached.

- 1) **2026 SPSW Organization Executive Summary**
- 2) **Park City Connectivity Summary Report: Executive Summary**
Rock Design and Associates
- 3) **Park City Connectivity Full Final Report**
Rock Design and Associates

Submitted by: Save People Save Wildlife
Request: \$20,000
Project Title: Safe Passage for Wildlife along Park City's SR 224 Corridor

Save People Save Wildlife (SPSW), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in Park City, Utah, respectfully requests a \$20,000 grant from the Central Wasatch Commission to support a critical assessment of wildlife-vehicle collision mitigation strategies along State Route 224 (SR 224).

This heavily trafficked corridor poses significant dangers to both motorists and wildlife, particularly deer, elk, and moose. In collaboration with Rock Design Associates (RDA), SPSW is conducting a \$100,000 independent, expert-led assessment to identify evidence-based solutions for preventing further loss of life and ecological disruption.

This funding will be added to other generous contributions from various public and private entities to continue our community's commitment to environmental stewardship, public safety, and innovative problem-solving.

Organizational Background

Founded in 2015 by concerned Park City residents, Save People Save Wildlife has successfully advocated for and implemented wildlife safety measures across Summit County, including wildlife fencing, reduced speed zones, and educational signage. SPSW's advocacy led to the installation of the landmark wildlife overpass at Parleys Summit. Now, SR 224—ranked fifth in Utah for wildlife-vehicle collisions—requires urgent attention.

SPSW brings together community members, policymakers, scientists, and design experts to develop long-term, scalable solutions that honor both public safety and wildlife preservation.

Statement of Need

SR 224 has become a perilous route for motorists and big game species. In 2024 alone, SPSW volunteers documented 48 fatalities—40 mule deer, 4 elk, and 3 moose, and one coyote—along this 10-mile corridor. These collisions are not only tragic but also extremely costly:

- **Moose collisions:** \$48,664 per incident
- **Elk collisions:** \$27,658
- **Deer collisions:** \$10,468

UDOT recently updated its crash severity costs, and the new numbers indicate an increase of approximately 50% since 2019.

Year	Fatal	Serious	Minor	Possible	No Injury
2024	\$4,171,100	\$4,171,100	\$368,300	\$184,900	\$18,600
2019	\$2,707,000	\$2,707,000	\$233,500	\$131,700	\$12,300

The Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) estimates a **fatal crash now costs over \$4 million**, while serious injury crashes cost the same. Beyond economic strain, these collisions disrupt ecosystems, reduce biodiversity, and compromise Park City's natural appeal.

SPSW is addressing this challenge by commissioning a data-driven, third-party assessment from Rock Design Associates, an industry leader in ecological infrastructure. This is the essential first step toward a safe, sustainable future for the SR 224 corridor.

Project Description

The proposed project will fund the **next phase of a comprehensive engineering and environmental assessment** conducted by Rock Design Associates. Key deliverables include:

- Analysis of wildlife movement patterns and crash data
- Identification of optimal mitigation locations
- Conceptual designs for wildlife crossings or fencing
- Cost/benefit analysis of proposed solutions
- Public engagement and education recommendations

This assessment will directly inform the design and implementation of long-term infrastructure solutions, such as underpasses, overpasses, and exclusion fencing, if those are determined to be the most appropriate, evidence-based solutions for this roadway.

SPSW is working closely with the **City of Park City, Summit County Commission, UDOT, UDWR**, and other agencies to ensure the results of this study translate into action.

Impact

This initiative will lead to:

- A substantial reduction in wildlife-vehicle collisions
- Improved motorist safety and reduced public health costs
- Preservation of Park City's iconic wildlife populations
- A replicable model for other mountain communities facing similar challenges

Long-term, this project will contribute to the creation of one or more wildlife crossings, making Park City a leader in ecological infrastructure and safety innovation.

Conclusion

Your support will help transform tragedy into opportunity. By investing \$20,000 in this foundational assessment, the Central Wasatch Commission will catalyze a long-term solution that balances human safety with the integrity of Utah's cherished wild landscapes.

We invite you to join SPSW and a growing coalition of civic and philanthropic leaders in protecting what makes Park City extraordinary—for residents, visitors, and wildlife alike.

Thank you for your consideration.