



Short-Term Projects 2026-2027 Grant Cycle Project Idea Worksheet

Please **thoroughly** review the project criteria at cwc.utah.gov before submitting your application. Then complete this worksheet and the questions found at the bottom of this page (and letter of support, if applicable) and send to Sam Kilpack at samantha@cwc.utah.gov no later than **February 10, 2026**.

Name of the project:	Uinta-Wasatch-Cache NF Vault Toilet Pumping
Location of the project:	Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest: Millcreek, Little and Big Cottonwood Canyon
Are you applying as an individual, or an organization? (Please list the name of the organization, if applicable)	Organization: National Forest Foundation
Project contact person:	Matthew Podolinsky
Project contact email address:	mpodolinsky@nationalforests.org
Project category (check all that apply) <i>*Please note your project is not required to encompass more than one category and will not be evaluated based on number of boxes checked</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation and transit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental protection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation stewardship <input type="checkbox"/> Economic sustainability
What is the project's expected start date?	February 1, 2026
What is the project's expected completion date?	January 31, 2027
What is the estimated total cost of the project?	\$240,000
How much are you requesting from the CWC?	\$11,050
Have you reviewed your project with the appropriate authorities as outlined in the eligibility requirements , and received their support or approval? If so, please list the name, agency, and position of each person you have spoken to.	Yes
Does your project require any permits, and do you have those permits in-hand?	No
Do you have the above-mentioned permits in-hand?	N/A
Does your project require a NEPA?	No
IF YES: Has the NEPA been completed already, or can the NEPA and the project both be completed by June 2026?	N/A
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

Please use the space below to respond to the following questions:

1. Briefly describe your idea. How will it implement transportation and transit solutions, protect the ecosystems that originate in the Central Wasatch, steward recreational access, and/or sustain the economic viability of the project area?

The National Forest Foundation (NFF), in partnership with the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache (UWC) National Forest, seeks funding to facilitate essential vault toilet pumping services across National Forest recreation sites. This initiative includes the Tri-Canyon area (Millcreek, Little Cottonwood, and Big Cottonwood Canyons), ensuring that critical recreation infrastructure remains operational and sanitary for the public.



Short-Term Projects 2026-2027 Grant Cycle Project Idea Worksheet

Alignment with Grant Categories:

The primary objective of this project is to assist the UWC in maintaining sanitary and open restrooms for National Forest visitors. By establishing an efficient process, we ensure that recreation areas with vault toilets remain open and accessible. Without this funding and partnership, the USFS faces a high probability of restroom closures due to capacity limits and maintenance backlogs, which results in a negative experience for the public.

Furthermore, this project meets the environmental protection category as it keeps USFS restrooms clean and open, which reduces human waste in the environment. Without an efficient system to pump vault toilets, the USFS may be forced to closed restrooms, including the Tri-Canyon area. The absence of functional and accessible restroom facilities poses a significant risk for the environment and watershed. For example, without accessible facilities, improper disposal of human waste in the surrounding environment increases.

The partnership between the NFF and the UWC is designed to bridge the gap in federal maintenance resources. A failure to provide these basic sanitation services doesn't just result in closed doors—it results in a direct threat to public health, and the degradation of the very environment visitors come to experience.

2. Does this idea result in other benefits to the Central Wasatch and its users beyond what you have described above?

The most critical benefits of this project are the safeguarding of the Salt Lake watershed, the preservation of the visitor experience, and habitat conservation. By ensuring vault toilets are consistently pumped and open, we prevent the dispersion of human waste into the soil and waterways. We ensure that the "visitor experience" is not impacted and degraded by the presence of unmanaged waste. This project will help eliminate issues, such as "Charmin flowers," which are not only unsightly but also signal a lack of stewardship. Lastly, by containing waste within the vault system, we prevent the presence of untreated waste in the forest, which poses a threat to aquatic and terrestrial wildlife.