

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE ADVISORY COUNCIL



**Outdoor
Recreation**

SEPTEMBER 4, 2026

MEETING PACKET

Virtual

UTAH DIVISION OF OUTDOOR RECREATION

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AGENDA

HOST: *Utah Department of Natural Resources*
Virtual

Google Meet Info

<https://meet.google.com/fsf-nxbv-erx>

Or dial: (US) +1 386-753-7816

PIN: 386 716 985#



ATTENDEES: ***Division of Outdoor Recreation (DOR) Employees:***
Evan Beitsch, Maureen Casper, Jason Curry, Mike Innes, Tara McKee, Deirdre Miller, Patrick Morrison, Mike Thomas, Rachel Toker, Jorge Vazquez, Caroline Weiler

Division of Law Enforcement (DLE) Employees:

Jacob Hinton, Todd Royce

Attorney General's Office Representative:

Nicole Hanna

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Advisory Council Members:

Jason Blankenagel (Chair), Brody Johnson (Vice-Chair), Cheryl Butler, Russ Cazier, Mike Cook, Sheriff Nathan Curtis, Brett Davis, Dean Harris, Dave Jacobson, Nicole Nielson, Laci Werner, Scott Wheeler

Recreational Trails Program Non-Motorized Committee Members:

Alexander Davenport, Jake Deslauriers, Daniel Gunn, Jenna Jorgensen, Brett Mciff, Patrick Parsel, Christian Pepper, Chelsea Phillippe, Brandon Stocksdaile

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2026

10:00 a.m.

INFORMATION

1. WELCOME

Virtual

1.1. Call to Order

Jason Blankenagel, Chair

1.2. Attendance and Introductions

Chair

ACTION

1.3. Approval of July 14, 2026, Meeting Minutes

Chair

10:10 a.m. INFORMATION	2. RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM (RTP) JOINT COMMITTEE DISCUSSION	RTP Grant Administrator, Evan Beitsch
10:30 a.m. INFORMATION	3. LAW ENFORCEMENT UPDATE	DLE Director, Todd Royce
10:40 a.m. INFORMATION	4. REVIEW OF NEW GRANT POLICIES	OHV Recreation Grant Administrator, Rachel Toker
11:00 a.m. INFORMATION	5. FY27 Q1 OHVR CYCLE REQUESTS & FUNDING	OHV Recreation Grant Administrator
	5.1. Overview	
	5.2. Review of Assigned Evaluators	
	5.3. Salesforce Evaluator Refresh	
	5.4. Grant Review Timeline	
	5.5. Council Requests & Other Items	
11:35 a.m. INFORMATION	6. PROGRAM UPDATE & OTHER ITEMS	Jason Curry, DOR Director
11:50 a.m. INFORMATION	7. PUBLIC COMMENT (if time permits)	Chair
12:00 p.m.	8. ADJOURNMENT	Chair

Item 1.3



DIVISION OF OUTDOOR RECREATION DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DRAFT

Meeting Minutes:

*Minutes Of The Meeting Held on July 14, 2026 from 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Virtual*

HOST: Utah Department of Natural Resources

Division of Outdoor Recreation

1594 W. North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116
(Virtual meeting)

ATTENDEES: Wade Allinson, Evan Beitsch, Maureen Casper, Jason Curry, Mike Innes, Carly Lansche, Tara McKee, Mike Thomas, Rachel Toker, Nicole Hanna, Jason Whittaker, Todd Royce, Jason Blankenagel (Chair), Brody Johnson (Vice-chair), Russ Cazier, Mike Cook, Sheriff Nathan Curtis, Brett Davis, Dean Harris, Dave Jacobson, Nicole Nielson, Laci Werner, Scott Wheeler, and Brett Stewart

MEETING MINUTES:

(0:00) Chairman Jason Blankengel called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. and welcomed new council members Dean Harris and Laci Werner. Everyone in attendance virtually and in person introduced themselves.

(4:34) Review of Meeting Minutes from June 17:

- Scott Wheeler requested a correction at timestamp 1:36:07 regarding comments attributed to him about the fuel tank in Logan Canyon that he did not make. Wade Allinson and DOR Staff made those comments. The minutes will be amended.

(7:14) Brody Johnson moved to approve the minutes as amended; Scott Wheeler seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously (with new members Dean and Laci abstaining).

(8:32) Heavy Equipment Trail Crew Update & Discussion: The division presented a proposed course correction for the state's newly funded heavy equipment trail crew operations.

- **(9:56) Original Plan:** Form a single, centralized heavy equipment crew consisting of two new full-time employees based in Richfield traveling statewide.
- **(10:21)** The costs and concerns with the original plan were presented and discussed.
- **(11:38) New Plan:** The region crew supervisors would be the heavy equipment operators. This would mean that the four part-time region supervisors would be made full time by using the funding from two proposed full-time positions.
- **(12:50) New Plan Benefits:**
 - Allows supervisors to run heavy machinery while a crew lead manages hand crews on separate projects simultaneously, doubling output capacity.
 - Drastically cuts ongoing travel expenses and per diem costs.
 - Provides a better work-life balance for employees, lowering burnout and improving retention compared to constant travel.

(15:08) Staff discussed that the funding for new equipment would come from ongoing funding and also a one time funding. Hoping to use some of the money to purchase new equipment to minimize sharing.

(16:00) Brody Johnson sought clarification on whether off-season heavy equipment work would be paused due to training. Mike Innes clarified that equipment work will continue, but this season's off-season will specifically be used to train the newly appointed region supervisors to run heavy equipment.

(18:34) Brody Johnson asked about the heavy equipment crew being used on anything non-motorized. Staff clarified that out of the \$460,000 legislative appropriation, \$380,000 came from the OHV restricted account and \$80,000 from the Outdoor Adventure Fund. Staff assured that work will remain almost exclusively motorized, and hours are meticulously tracked.

(20:19) Scott Wheeler and Mike Cook expressed concern that 20 minutes was insufficient time to fully review a programmatic shift of this scale.

(20:44) Mike Cook raised concerns with getting close to mixing motorized and non-motorized with the majority of the funding coming from the OHV restricted fund. Mike mentioned that separating crews into motorized and non-motorized groups would make things easier to see where the money is going.

(23:19) Jason Blankenagel asked about what type of training the team has looked at and what will be needed to operate on federal lands. Staff confirmed they are partnering with the Fish Lake National Forest to certify operators, alongside

leveraging annual training with the Weber Basin Job Corps. BLM does not require any further certifications.

(24:40) Carly Lansche mentions that the Division of Outdoor Recreation does a great job of capturing all of the work that the trail crews do. The DOR is confident that we can say be strategic in the way we plan out the season ahead to match the two different funding sources. She mentioned that we can do and impact more with the funding allotment that we have been awarded in our current operations.

(26:16) Wade Allinson mentions that he thinks the model could work, but the accountability piece needs to be in place. He has concerns that the funding should be focused on motorized work as the spirit behind it originally suggested.

(27:08) Jason Curry states that the DOR sought the council's advice on the heavy equipment crew for this upcoming legislative session. It was laid out as a single crew based in Richfield. As the team looked at it, there was a different approach and the intent of the meeting is to seek the council's advice. How can the original plan work better from an efficiency standpoint? Jason also mentions that the goal is to get good heavy machinery operators out of this effort.

(29:35) Scott Wheeler asks if there is a chart that shows where the trails are that would need the heavy equipment. Carly Lansche explains that one side of the trails team is on the ground and the other side is in the GIS and mapping analytics experts. The team has been measuring outdoor recreation trends and has been relying on counties to help lead the way and guide. Mike Thomas mentioned that the region supervisors will form partnerships with counties and will be able to coordinate and collaborate on needs.

(34:02) Jason Curry summarizes by stating that at this point the team will stick with Plan A as originally planned. He asks what the council's advice would be when we have this decision in front of us.

(35:37) Jason Blankenagel asks for clarification on which plan staff feel would give more maintained trails out of these two options. Mike Innes states that the regional approach would be the best use out of tax payer dollars. We would get many more projects out of the newly proposed plan. This funding is meant to be all over the state, not just in one region. Option B would be the best use of funding.

(39:53) Mike Thomas provides history with how the trailcrew is organized today.

(42:24) Brody Johnson states that the biggest concern has come from the fires and the damage that they have done to the trails. The heavy equipment crew could be focused on repairing these trails. Nicole Nielson mentions that it will take a couple of years for the fire damage to stabilize and that will give some time to go repair those trails. She acknowledges the point that Mike Innes stated regarding trail crews having a work life balance and having to travel a lot does result in burnout.

(45:31) Dean Harris asks about how the equipment will be allocated. Mike Innes clarifies that the supervisors are putting their schedules together and will know

what projects they have on the schedule for the entire year. They will plan accordingly with the equipment. Discussion continues.

(49:49) Jason Blankenagel summarizes by stating that the main concern is to make sure that the funding is allocated to motorized projects and that we are collaborating with the local communities and those that have trail equipment with heavy machine operators. Dollar for dollar, the trail crew is recommending the new plan to get the most out of the money.

(50:52) Brody Johnson offers advice to not lock yourself into one idea. Give it a year or two to see how it works. Discussion continues about the logistics of either plan. Staff thank the council for their advice, questions, and comments.

(57:00) The division addressed trail damage caused by recent wildfires (e.g., the Silver King fire). Director Jason Curry noted that the full extent of trail stabilization needs won't be completely clear until the following year. A future discussion will determine whether to hold back some fiscal funds for subsequent wildfire rehabilitation. Due to severe economic impacts on outdoor recreation in hard-hit areas like Beaver County, the division is adding a prioritization metric into grant applications to favor projects submitted by fire-affected counties.

(58:49) Rachel Toker announced that the following grant applications officially open tomorrow:

- Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Grant
- Outdoor Recreation Mitigation Grant (targeting search and rescue and infrastructure damaged by high rural visitation)

(59:37) Brody Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting; Mike Cook seconded the motion. The meeting officially adjourned at approximately 6:02 p.m.

New This Grant Cycle

Trail Work & Access Protection

- **Maximum request increased to \$450,000** per application.
- Requests **over \$350,000** require a **10-minute presentation and 5-minute Q&A** at the review meeting.
- The **full Council will review and score** all requests exceeding \$350,000.
- **Additional funding is not permitted** for these categories or any other category.

Search & Rescue

- The flat-rate funding model has been updated.
- **Two competitive bids are required** for any single item over \$10,000.

OHV Tourism

- **Maximum request increased to \$75,000** per application.

Non-Profit Applicants

- Non-profits may now request up to **\$15,000 for machines or equipment**.
- Requests for machinery/equipment will receive **additional review** based on project necessity and organizational capacity. Funding may be restricted or deferred until the organization establishes a successful grant history with the Council.
- **Two competitive bids are required** for any single item over \$10,000.

New Budget Form — You Spoke, We Listened (Hopefully!)

- We have introduced a **new budget form** to make the budgeting process easier and clearer.
- The new budget includes **directions and an example** to help applicants complete it correctly.
- [View the New FY27 Budget Form](#)
- [View the FY27 Budget Guide](#)

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE RECREATION (OHVR) GRANT — FY27 Q1 - SUMMER - SEPTEMBER 2026										Project Abstract	EVALUATOR SCORES
Category	#	APP-00####	Project Name	Organization	County	Project Total	Requested	Match	%		Evaluators
Trail Work	1	APP-006055	Moab-Area OHV Trail Coordination	Grand County Government	Grand, San Juan	\$239,988.00	\$137,488.00	\$102,500.00	43%	Moab-Area OHV Trail Coordination: Grand County seeks funding to retain an OHV Trail Coordinator position in 2027 and 2028. This position is essential for coordinating with local land managers and stakeholders and planning motorized trail projects that are implemented by the DOR State Trail Crew. This position builds on four years of motorized trail programming, and funding will allow Grand County to continue building local capacity for needed trail maintenance.	Brett Davis Dave Jacobson Cheryl Butler
Trail Work	2	APP-006068	Fillmore Forest Trail repair and enhancement 2	Sand Rock Ridge Riders	Millard	\$142,400.00	\$136,400.00	\$6,000.00	4%	Fillmore Forest Trail repair and enhancement 2: This OHVR grant application is a request for funding to help re-build the roads and trails in the Fish Lake Forest above the Fillmore area. Recently there has been another wildfire and heavy rain at times causing destruction. By spring it will certainly be worse. Our work will be done under the direction of our local forest district manager Doug Robison. He will assess the need and give us direction.	Cheryl Butler Brody Johnson Brett Davis
Trail Work	3	APP-006142	Kamas/Heber/Logan/Ogden Trail Maintenance 2027-2029	Western Singletrack Alliance	Summit, Wasatch, Weber	\$146,824.00	\$108,929.00	\$37,895.00	26%	Kamas/Heber/Logan/Ogden Trail Maintenance 2027-2029: The Summit, Wasatch, and Weber County Singletrack Trail Maintenance Project aims to ensure the sustainability and accessibility of off-road motorcycle trails by organizing regular volunteer efforts to repair and maintain trails, preserving their natural beauty and promoting safe riding experiences for enthusiasts	Cheryl Butler Scott Wheeler Russ Cazier
Trail Work	4	APP-006218	Facility, Experience, and Access Enhancements at the High Desert Trail	Foundation for America's Public Lands	Beaver, Box Elder, Iron, Juab, Millard, Tooele, Washington	\$381,915.72	\$266,327.72	\$115,588.00	30%	Facility, Experience, and Access Enhancements at the High Desert Trail: Utah's High Desert Trail is an ambitious motorized trail project designed to connect 7 counties along 810 miles. It represents the vision of local, state, and federal partners and an investment of more than \$1M. To safely open the trail and track its impact on Utahns, the Foundation for America's Public Lands and the BLM will: purchase and install durable wayfinding signage and kiosks to enhance motorized access, install traffic counters, and safely open the long-awaited trail.	Brody Johnson Laci Werner Jason Blankenagel
Trail Work	5	APP-006339	Carbon County Motocross Track Continued Improvements 3	Carbon County Recreation Departmen	Carbon	\$230,298.72	\$173,421.04	\$56,877.68	25%	Carbon County Motocross Track Continued Improvements 3: In the third round of Carbon County Motocross Track improvements, we will focus on improving the substrate of the track, as well as some improvements around the facility. Sand and topsoil will be added, surfactant will improve water retention and dust suppression, a tractor will be leased for grooming, and starting gates will be replaced.	Scott Wheeler Jason Blankenagel Nicole Nielson
Trail Work	6	APP-006343	Fishlake Motorized Trail Equipment Replacement	Fishlake National Forest	Beaver, Garfield, Millard, Piute, Sevier, Wayne	\$45,000.00	\$39,000.00	\$6,000.00	13%	Fishlake Motorized Trail Equipment Replacement: Replacement of two 50" side-by-sides for Paiute, Gooseberry & Great Western Trail maintenance.	Cheryl Butler Sheriff Curtis Nicole Nielson
Trail Work	7	APP-006380	Glenwood Raceway Track Improvements	Glenwood MX	Sevier	\$170,760.89	\$112,507.33	\$58,253.56	34%	Glenwood Raceway Track Improvements: Glenwood raceway track maintenance project. Maintenance equipment leasing, track watering improvements, safety upgrades, and track repair.	Scott Wheeler Russ Cazier Mike Cook
Trail Work	8	APP-006383	Indian Creek and Ferron Creek Bridge Replacement	Manti-La Sal National Forest Ferron Ranger District	Sanpete	\$91,824.40	\$68,233.00	\$23,591.40	26%	Indian Creek and Ferron Creek Bridge Replacement: The Ferron Creek Bridge is needing to be replaced it has a broken stringer and will not last much longer. The Indian Creek bridge is at the end of it's life span and is also needing to be replaced.	Cheryl Butler Scott Wheeler Dean Harris
Trail Work	9	APP-006389	Olsen Reservoir BLM Trail Designation	Utah Division of Wildlife Resources	Carbon, Emery	\$26,500.00	\$18,550.00	\$7,950.00	30%	Olsen Reservoir BLM Trail Designation: The Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) would like to work with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to designate some existing roads/trails on BLM lands north of Olsen Reservoir. The DWR is working on a project to improve Olsen Reservoir and would like to ensure and improve public access to the reservoir. Currently, these routes are not designated for use in the BLM Travel Management Plan.	Dave Jacobson Russ Cazier Nicole Nielson
Trail Work	10	APP-006431	Tri-State OHV Trail Maintenance	Tri State ATV Club	Garfield, Iron, Kane, Washington	\$15,894.20	\$11,970.20	\$3,924.00	25%	Tri-State OHV Trail Maintenance: This project provides funding for an enclosed cargo trailer along with appropriate tools for trail maintenance and upkeep. Including projects for the enhancement, operation and maintenance of public owned OHV facilities, maintaining trails for UTV/OHV access, kiosk projects, cattle guards, gates, trail cleanup, and installing picnic tables on existing trails.	Dave Jacobson Cheryl Butler Brody Johnson
Trail Work	11	APP-006443	OHV Trail Equipment	Garfield County Government	Garfield	\$460,000.00	\$115,000.00	\$345,000.00	75%	OHV Trail Equipment: Garfield County is seeking matching funds to complete the purchase of a motor grader for maintaining heavily used Class D roads that serve as primary OHV travel corridors. The project has already been awarded \$200,000 through the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) toward a total project budget of \$460,000. The grader will improve safety, drainage, and trail conditions while protecting surrounding resources and maintaining reliable public access. Garfield County will still provide a 25% cash match	Brody Johnson Scott Wheeler Jason Blankenagel
Trail Work	12	APP-006448	Seasonal Employees for Trail Work	Garfield County Government	Garfield	\$109,180.00	\$40,000.00	\$69,180.00	63%	Seasonal Employees for Trail Work: Garfield County is requesting funding for two seasonal equipment operators to utilize existing equipment to perform maintenance and inspection of OHV routes throughout the county. This work will be coordinated with local OHV groups, the Forest Service, and Garfield County. Garfield County will supply vehicles, equipment, and fuel.	Brody Johnson Brett Davis Cheryl Butler
Trail Work	13	APP-006460	Proctor Canyon Post Fire Restoration	Garfield County Government	Garfield	\$398,182.06	\$151,182.06	\$247,000.00	62%	Proctor Canyon Post Fire Restoration: Garfield County will work with Dixie National Forest to repair and stabilize Proctor Canyon Road, a major motorized access route from the Hatch area into the Dixie National Forest that was heavily damaged by the France Canyon Fire and subsequent monsoonal flooding. Work will include culvert installation, riprap bank stabilization, gravel replacement, and temporary seasonal access management to improve safety and preserve long-term OHV access.	Brody Johnson Cheryl Butler Jason Blankenagel
Trail Work	14	APP-006483	Little Egypt Restroom	Garfield County Government	Garfield	\$95,140.00	\$67,600.00	\$27,540.00	29%	Little Egypt Restroom: Garfield County will install a concrete vault toilet at the Little Egypt staging area, a popular access point for OHV recreation in the Poison Springs and Henry Mountains areas. The project will improve sanitation and visitor services at this heavily used staging location and will include two years of restroom cleaning and vault pumping.	Dave Jacobson Brody Johnson Russ Cazier
Access Protection	15	APP-006053	Mary Cashen Canyon Fence Phase 2	Uintah County	Uintah	\$55,795.78	\$24,115.78	\$31,680.00	57%	Mary Cashen Canyon Fence Phase 2: The Mary Cashen Canyon Phase 2 Project will extend the existing fencing by approximately 1.5 miles, from the end of the Phase 1, 2024 project to the Searle Cutoff Road. The project will include installation of fencing along the approved road alignment. The completed fencing will secure adjacent private property while completing this portion of the OHV trail, eliminating locked gates and providing continued, unrestricted public access to Uintah County's OHV trail system.	Nicole Nielson Jason Blankenagel Brett Davis
Access Protection	16	APP-006124	UPLA Public Policy Consultant Position	Utah Public Lands Alliance	All	\$52,465.00	\$42,000.00	\$10,465.00	20%	Fillmore Forest Trail repair and enhancement 2: UPLA will retain our public lands consultant to monitor and influence decisions affecting OHV access in Utah. The consultant will research, educate, advocate, and submit comments on land use plans to support responsible OHV recreation. Performance measures include submitting meaningful comments during public comment periods and providing substantive feedback on priority travel management, resource management, and other land use plans affecting OHV access, as well as conducting training.	Nicole Nielson Dean Harris Brett Davis

Categories	%	BEGINNING	% USED	\$ USED	% LEFTOVER	\$ LEFTOVER
Trail Work	49%	\$2,940,000.00	0.0%	\$0.00	100.0%	\$2,940,000.00
Access Protection	7.5%	\$450,000.00	0.0%	\$0.00	100.0%	\$450,000.00
Education	7.5%	\$450,000.00	0.0%	\$0.00	100.0%	\$450,000.00
Search and Rescue	23%	\$1,380,000.00	0.0%	\$0.00	100.0%	\$1,380,000.00
Snowmobile	10%	\$600,000.00	0.0%	\$0.00	100.0%	\$600,000.00
OHV Tourism	3%	\$180,000.00	0.0%	\$0.00	100.0%	\$180,000.00
	100%	\$6,000,000.00	0%	\$0.00	100%	\$6,000,000.00

Categories	POTENTIAL USE			
	% USED	\$ USED	% LEFTOVER	\$ LEFTOVER
Trail Work	49.2%	\$1,446,608.35	50.8%	\$1,493,391.65
Access Protection	14.7%	\$66,115.78	85.3%	\$383,884.22
Education	87.0%	\$391,287.98	13.0%	\$58,712.02
Search and Rescue	16.4%	\$226,930.58	83.6%	\$1,153,069.42
Snowmobile	23.1%	\$138,498.20	76.9%	\$461,501.80

Education	17	APP-006057	Motorized Rider Trailhead Safety and Responsibility Campaign	Utah Avalanche Center	Box Elder, Cache, Davis, Duchesne, Emery, Grand, Morgan, Salt Lake, San Juan, Sanpete, Sevier, Summit, Utah Wasatch, Weber	\$110,478.00	\$70,155.00	\$40,323.00	36%	Motorized Rider Trailhead Safety and Responsibility Campaign: This program improves rider safety through direct outreach, new trailhead education infrastructure, and targeted classes like Know Before You Go (KBYG). Motorized users account for 40% of all fatalities in Utah, so this is a critical public safety program. It consists of (1) a Rural Trailhead Ambassador, (2) new trailhead signs with integrated beacon checkers, and (3) updated Know Before You Go educational materials to promote avalanche safety and responsible recreation.	Mike Cook Dean Harris Russ Cazier
Education	18	APP-006105	Back From Beyond Podcast: OHV Pre-SAR Initiative	Steward Moab	Grand	\$67,010.00	\$36,005.00	\$31,005.00	46%	Back From Beyond Podcast: OHV Pre-SAR Initiative: Back From Beyond is a preventative search and rescue podcast designed to reduce SAR incidents in Moab. Produced with Grand County Search and Rescue (GCSAR), one of the most active SAR teams in Utah, episodes pair survivor stories with those who rescued them - educating visitors on how to prepare safely in Moab's remote desert terrain. This request funds underwriting of OHV-related episodes for Season 2.	Mike Cook Sheriff Curtis Jason Blankenagel
Education	19	APP-006130	Guided OHV Tours in Millard County	Territorial Statehouse State Park	Millard	\$43,751.48	\$25,727.98	\$18,023.50	41%	Guided OHV Tours in Millard County: This project is a guided OHV tour program based out of Territorial Statehouse State Park. It will combine recreational trail access to OHV owners (using their own machines) with educational points of interest. Grant funds will purchase two OHVs (a leader and a rear sweep), safety and first aid gear, a drinking water system, and communications. The program provides structured, safe off-road experiences and adds recreation assets to a State Park typically known only for its museum.	Mike Cook Dean Harris Dave Jacobson
Education	20	APP-006437	Tread Lightly! OHV Safety & Responsible Riding Education Initiative	Tread Lightly	Beaver, Carbon, Emery, Garfield, Grand, Iron, Juab, Kane, Millard, Piute, San Juan, Sanpete, Sevier, Washington, Wayne	\$322,957.40	\$259,400.00	\$63,557.40	20%	Tread Lightly! OHV Safety & Responsible Riding Education Initiative: Tread Lightly! will establish a Southern Utah based OHV Education Specialist to lead the OHV Safety & Responsible Riding Education Initiative, separate from the current Utah OHVR Program Manager. The project will deliver safety campaigns, educational signs and kiosks, youth outreach with geographic focus in Southern Utah, and a trackable web based "Know Before You Go" program through outfitters, rental businesses, and community partners statewide.	Mike Cook Scott Wheeler Nicole Nielson
Search and Rescue	21	APP-006072	Iron County SAR CanAm ATV Purchase Summer 2026	Iron County Sheriff Search & Rescue	Iron	\$35,852.00	\$27,000.00	\$8,852.00	25%	Iron County SAR CanAm ATV Purchase Summer 2026: The Iron County Sheriff Search & Rescue is seeking a grant to acquire a new Side X Side ATV to replace an older machine in our fleet that is coming to the end of its effective service life, is becoming costly to maintain, and is prone to breakdowns. It will also help us be more confident that the safety of our members and the subjects we rescue is not jeopardized and allow us to transport more people and equipment to areas that are not easily accessible with conventional vehicles.	Sheriff Curtis Jason Blankenagel Mike Cook
Search and Rescue	22	APP-006345	Tooele County SAR 2 for 3 ATV Request	Tooele County Search & Rescue	Tooele	\$25,317.20	\$18,085.58	\$7,231.62	29%	Tooele County SAR 2 for 3 ATV Request: Tooele County Search & Rescue is adding two new 2025 Honda ATVs to our emergency fleet to help save lives on Utah's trails. We are outfitting oth vehicles with heavy-duty winches, cargo boxes, and high-intensity LED lights so our volunteer teams can navigate rough terrain and find lost or injured riders after dark. This upgrade replaces twenty-year-old models, giving our team the reliable, specialized equipment needed to respond faster and work safer during critical missions.	Sheriff Curtis Laci Werner Russ Cazier
Search and Rescue	23	APP-006396	Beaver Fire District No. 1 UTV Request	Beaver Fire District No. 1	Beaver, Piute	\$34,800.00	\$26,100.00	\$8,700.00	25%	Beaver Fire District No. 1 UTV Request: Beaver Fire District No. 1's application to acquire a Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV) for incident response.	Sheriff Curtis Laci Werner Brett Davis
Search and Rescue	24	APP-006452	Juab Search and Rescue New OHV and Trailer	Juab County Sheriff's Office	Juab	\$48,993.20	\$36,745.00	\$12,248.20	25%	Juab Search and Rescue New OHV and Trailer: Juab Search and rescue would like to replace some of its older equipment with a new UTV that is enclosed with heat and air conditioning so that it can be used in all weather conditions. like wise we will need to purchase a new trailer to haul the equipment in as none of our current trailers will accomidate a UTV of this size.	Sheriff Curtis Laci Werner Dave Jacobson
Search and Rescue	25	APP-006477	Mobile Command Post/Drone Control Center	Wasatch Search & Rescue	Wasatch	\$219,000.00	\$119,000.00	\$100,000.00	42%	Mobile Command Post/Drone Control Center: Wasatch Search & Rescue Mobile Command Post. This Vehicle is setup on a sprinter van chassis. As a mobile command center, SAR will be able to respond quickly to all backcountry calls with a command post that will also be the base for Drone Operations related to Search & Rescue Missions.	Sheriff Curtis Laci Werner Nicole Nielson
Snowmobile	26	APP-006336	Strawberry Snowmobile Complex Grooming and Trail Maintenance	Strawberry Trail Users Association	Wasatch	\$196,584.40	\$138,498.20	\$58,086.20	30%	Strawberry Snowmobile Complex Grooming and Trail Maintenance: To provide supplemental snowmobile trail grooming and winter trail maintenance in the Strawberry Snowmobile Complex. Specifically in the Mud Creek, Clyde Creek, and Strawberry Road Areas. This project will work directly with the State to coordinate grooming efforts to provide a more consistent and economical product and to enhance the experience of all users. This will free up State time and resources, resulting in overall better trails, and product (user experience) in the Strawberry area.	Dean Harris Mike Cook Laci Werner
OHV Tourism	27	APP-006103	Utah's Trail Country OHV Digital Trailhead	Sevier County Tourism	Sevier	\$35,000.00	\$26,250.00	\$8,750.00	25%	Utah's Trail Country OHV Digital Trailhead: In 2025, there were 1.8 million out-of-market visitors (who lived 50+ miles outside the county) to Sevier County. Measuring OHV-recreation specific visitation exactly is difficult, but based on the trailhead activity data we have access to, we estimate 14% of our county tourism visitation was related to OHV recreation, totaling approximately 112,000 visitors. We do know OHV tourism is down 18% due to the fires we have had.	Sheriff Curtis Brody Johnson Nicole Nielson
OHV Tourism	28	APP-006108	SLOREX OHV Tourism Marketing Initiative	Utah Off-Roaders Alliance	Salt Lake	\$109,494.20	\$74,403.84	\$35,090.36	32%	SLOREX OHV Tourism Marketing Initiative: SLOREX (Salt Lake Off-Road and Outdoor Expo) is the Utah Off Roaders Alliance's (UORA) flagship annual fundraising event, supporting UORA's mission to preserve and expand responsible OHV recreation access across Utah. Grant funding will support targeted marketing to increase awareness and attendance, grow fundraising revenue, and directly support trail maintenance, advocacy, and responsible recreation education for Utah's OHV community.	Brett Davis Dean Harris Scott Wheeler
OHV Tourism	29	APP-006120	OHV Trail Website Update	Garfield County Office of Tourism	Garfield	\$35,000.00	\$26,250.00	\$8,750.00	25%	OHV Trail Website Update: Garfield County is looking to enhance the OHV trail content on its dedicated trail website, utah-trails.com. Garfield County offers some of the most extensive OHV trail networks in Southern Utah. The current website offers incomplet trail information, no filtering or search functionality, and inaccurate data that can pose a risk for visitors planning their OHV trip. Our goal is to flip the script, and turn this website into a valuable resource to OHV enthusiasts coming to Garfield County.	Mike Cook Jason Blankenagel Laci Werner
OHV Tourism	30	APP-006481	Explore Logan Snowmobile Promotion	Cache County	Cache	\$48,250.00	\$38,600.00	\$9,650.00	20%	Explore Logan Snowmobile Promotion: Explore Logan will run a five-month digital marketing campaign (Nov. 15, 2026-March 15, 2027) promoting snowmobiling in Logan Canyon and Hardware Ranch. The campaign is designed to grow visitation, overnight stays and rentals by targeting snowmobile enthusiasts along the Wasatch Front, Southeast Idaho, Wyoming and Colorado. For the \$48,250 campaign, we are committed to providing \$9,650 and are seeking a \$38,600 match.	Dean Harris Dave Jacobson Russ Cazier

AVAILABLE FUNDS	LEFTOVER
\$6,000,000.00	

OHV Tourism	91.9%	\$165,503.84	8.1%	\$14,496.16
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40.6%\$2,434,944.7359.4%\$3,565,055.27

CategoryTrail WorkTotal14CountySalt LakeReviewersBrett DavisAssigned7Rep.4WD

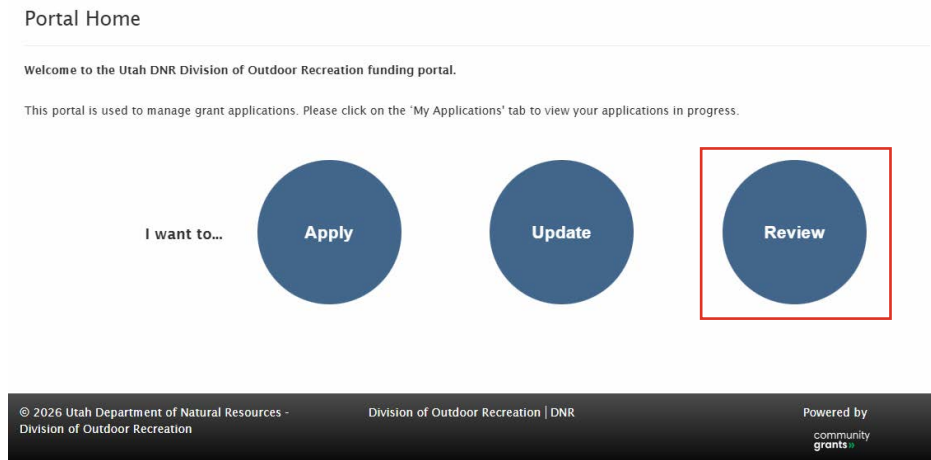
Access	2
Education	4
SAR	5
Snowmobile	1
OHV Tourism	4
Land Acquisition	0
Withdrawn	0
Disqualified	0
	30

Uintah	Jason Blankenagel	8	At Large - Chair
Iron	Brody Johnson	8	ATV - Vice Chair
Iron	Dave Jacobson	7	BLM
Iron	Laci Werner	7	Dealership
Uintah	Mike Cook	8	Edu & Safety
Carbon	Scott Wheeler	7	Motorcycle
Carbon	Nicole Nielson	8	PLPCO & Access
Sevier	Sheriff Curtis	8	SAR
Cache	Dean Harris	7	Snowmobile
Davis	Russ Cazier	7	STLA
Salt Lake	Cheryl Butler	8	USFS

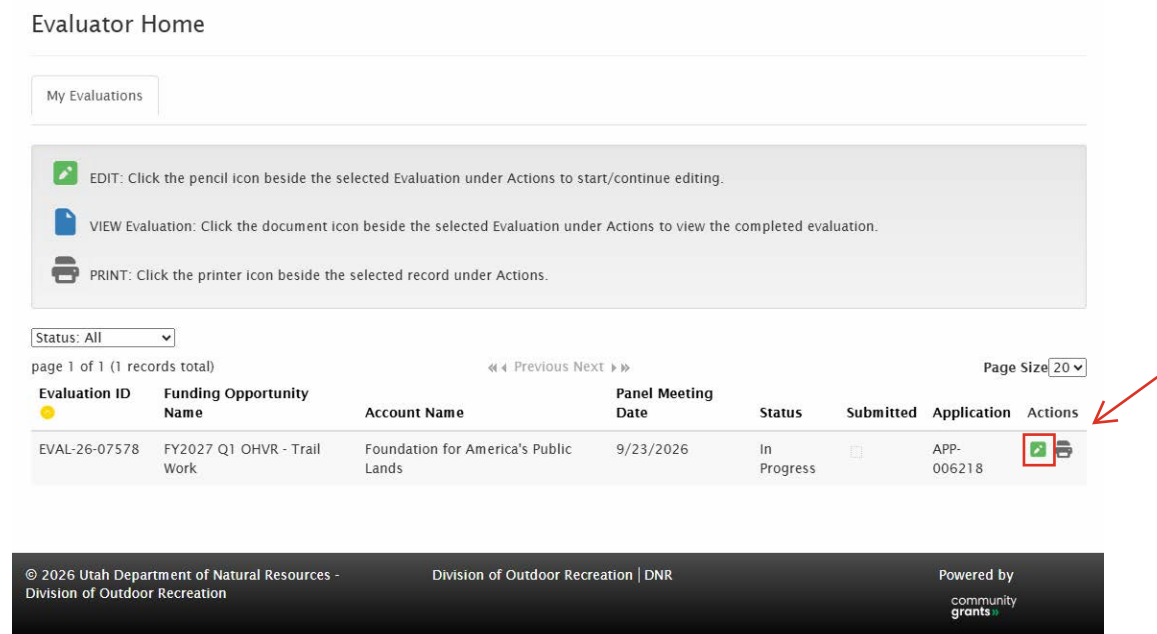
Application Number								
Category								
Name								
Organization								
Request								
	Project Summary							
Comments (Not required but encouraged)								
Score (1-5)								
	Category							
Comments (Not required but encouraged)								
Score (1-5)								
	Project Budget & Funding							
Comments (Not required but encouraged)								
Score (1-5)								
	Application Attachments							
Comments (Not required but encouraged)								
Score (1-5)								
Total Score:	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Project Strengths:								
Project Weaknesses:								
Previous Funding Stewardship:								
Other Comments:								
	Funding Decision							
Fund:	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Do Not Fund:	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Fund at a Different Amount:	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Requires Additional Discussion:	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Decision Rationale:								



Step 1: After logging into the portal (<https://utdnror.my.site.com/portal/>), the evaluator should click on the “Review” bubble on the portal home screen, or click on the top tab labeled “Panel Review.”



Step 2: Evaluators will then see the list of their assigned applications to review and score. Applications can be opened for scoring by selecting the green pencil icon under “Actions.” Please note, you will not be able to access the full applications for any projects that are not assigned to you specifically.



Evaluator Instructions

Review and Evaluation Process:

After a preliminary internal review, the eligible applications will be divided among the Off-Highway Vehicle Advisory Council. Each application will be scored by a minimum of 3 evaluators, and the average of those scores will be presented at the OHVR Final Scoring Meeting, where discussion of the submitted projects will take place and funding decision will be made. Read each section thoroughly and score the entire section on a scale from 1 to 5.

The "Project Overview," is not scored, but contains critical information pertaining to the other sections so please review it thoroughly.

Please designate your score of 1-5 for each category. Comments are encouraged but not required. The categories to be scored are:

Project Summary
Project Category
Project Budget and Funding
Project Application Attachments

Scoring values are as follows:

1=Low
2=Adequate
3=Shows Promise/Acceptable
4=Good
5=Exemplary

In addition to providing scores on the sections, please include comments for the following prompts:

Project Strengths
Project Weakness
Past Funding
Other Comments
Funding Decision
Decision Rationale

These comments are helpful for both our division and the applicant as feedback, so please give meaningful comments.

Before scoring, please review evaluation criteria as established in R650-301 governing the Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Grant:

The scoring criteria shall assess and value various categories, including whether the proposed project will:

(a) fit within at least one of the categories; (b) use awarded funds in a manner considered reasonable and necessary as determined by a submitted budget or past project performance that demonstrates the organization's fiscal integrity; (c) offer partnerships and cooperative efforts for the project among agencies and users. This includes cooperative funding; (d) be in a location that offers convenient proximity and access to users or has the potential to link with existing facilities; (e) have the potential for multiple-season use or uses available to multiple user groups; (f) or have a higher percentage of matching funds from the applicant.

Step 3: Review each scoring section of the application by assigning it a score from 1-5. The OHVR system functions off of a 5-point scale for the following scoring sections: Project Summary, Project Budget and Summary, and Application Attachments. Comments are not required for each section, but are encouraged.

This section is worth 25 points.

Evaluator comments	Section Score
	Enter score 0-5 Total Weight: 25.00%

Step 4: In the Evaluation Comments section, evaluators should make comments that are tactful and constructive. For weaker applications, evaluators should avoid a harsh tone or overly broad language in the comments. Make sure the selected score is supported by comments, giving more comments in the strengths section for high-scoring projects.

Please provide comments and feedback for the following subjects.

Question: Project Strengths:

Not Answered

Evaluator comments

Question: Project Weaknesses:

Not Answered

Evaluator comments

Question: Has the organization demonstrated responsible stewardship of previous funding based on their past award amounts and project completion status?

Not Answered

Evaluator comments

Question: Other Comments:

Not Answered

Evaluator comments

Question: Funding Decision:

☐ FUND

☐ DO NOT FUND

☐ FUND AT A DIFFERENT AMOUNT

☐ REQUIRES ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION

Evaluator comments

Question: Decision Rationale:

Not Answered

Evaluator comments

Step 5: Review all scores and comments before submitting the final overall score of application. Evaluate all assigned applications by **EOD Friday, September 18, 2026.**

Composite Scores:

A minimum of three evaluators will review each grant. The three scores from the assigned evaluators will be averaged for a composite score for the project's ranking.

Things to keep in mind while reviewing an application:

1. Remember to score based **only** on what's in the application. Let's try to keep personal feelings or past experiences out of the scoring part.
2. What's our end goal? To pick a group of projects we feel great about, that we can easily explain our reasoning for, and that truly helps the OHV community.

TIMELINE

OHVR GRANT REVIEW



9/18



REVIEWS DUE

Council members will have 16 days to complete their evaluations.



9/21



DRAFT AGENDA SENT

A draft agenda will be shared with the council for review. Please submit agenda requests by the 18th.



9/22



MEETING PACKET SENT

Application reviews, score overviews, evaluator comments, and other agenda items will be sent for your review.



9/23



OHV ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Held in Vernal at 152 East 100 North from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



10/1 -
10/10*



RECOMMENDATIONS & CONTRACTS SENT

Recommendations will be forwarded to Division and Department Directors. Contracts will follow 1–2 weeks after approval.

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE ADVISORY COUNCIL 2026 MEETING SCHEDULE

OHVR GRANT REVIEW

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

Scheduled

Vernal, Utah

SITE VISIT

September or October, 2026

Not Scheduled

TBD

OHV PROGRAM FINANCIAL UPDATE

November, 2026

Not Scheduled

TBD