

## **2024 Rocky Mountaineers Grant Program**

### **Overview**

The Rocky Mountaineers Forest Service Association is accepting applications for grants to help fund projects in 2024 that further the goals of the Rocky Mountaineers within the Rocky Mountain Region of the U.S. Forest Service as noted in the Project Selection Criteria.

Grant applications will be accepted from private, non-profit, or non-governmental organizations and individuals pursuing such goals. Grant awards will not be made directly to the U.S. Forest Service.

Approximately \$2,500 - \$5,000 will be available in 2024 for project grants. The Rocky Mountaineers will make these awards available annually as budgets permit, because they support many U.S. Forest Service heritage and natural resource projects; projects that advance public appreciation and understanding of our nation's National Forests and Grasslands natural resources. Projects that focus on existing interpretive and education sites will be emphasized.

### **Project Selection Criteria**

Grants will be awarded to individuals or organizations for projects that meet the Special Projects Fund and the Mission or Purpose in the Bylaws adopted by the Rocky Mountaineers Board of Directors on July 9, 2013. This policy specifies, "the Association will establish and maintain a special projects fund or account to help support special projects and other philanthropic needs.

This fund will not be used for annual operating expenses and shall be maintained by special donations, contributions, and excess annual dues income. The Board will annually decide what special projects will be funded and only projects approved by the board will be funded, except for those responding to emergency needs.

The following criteria shall be used for project selection:

- The project furthers the mission of the Rocky Mountaineers.
- The project will have a lasting influence on National Forest and Grassland management, natural resource management, and will help educate the public on the importance and significance of these resources.
- The project will reach large numbers of people.
- The funds provided by the Rocky Mountaineers can be leveraged with other funds and in-kind contributions by organizations or individuals.
- The project/restoration or improvement project will help sustain and maintain the legacy of the Forest Service.

· The Rocky Mountaineers and the awarded individual or organization will receive visible credit for participation.

Applications for grants, therefore, should reflect these policy specifications and criteria. Before and after photos, in digital format will be required.

### **How to Apply**

Grant applications should be prepared as letters that describe the proposed project and enumerates how its accomplishment would satisfy the selection criteria.

Please note that grant requests supporting U.S. Forest Service projects also must include an accompanying statement of support for and commitment to the project signed by the responsible line officer (e.g., Forest Supervisor or District Ranger).

### **Due Date for 2024 Proposals**

Grant applications shall be submitted electronically to the Rocky Mountaineers at [rmountaineers@gmail.com](mailto:rmountaineers@gmail.com) no later than December 31, 2023.

The Past Chair along with two Board members will review the applications and make selections based on the established criteria to be submitted to the Board for approval.

### **Reporting**

Approved projects shall be required to submit an annual report by December 31, 2024, to [rmountaineers@gmail.com](mailto:rmountaineers@gmail.com) Reports should be brief, demonstrating the project accomplishment, including appropriate before and after pictures. These reports will be linked to the Rocky Mountaineers website and be published in the quarterly newsletter of the Rocky Mountaineers.