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Common Ground grants support sustainable outdoor recreation (left) and conservation easements to protect rural landscapes such as the stunning Arrowpoint Ranch (top).

Living in A Future Built on Common Ground

Campaigns and elections are that periodic opportunity for a population to address concerns and priorities, to frame up what matters and define the lens through which leaders should view their work. So it was in 2016 when I first ran for county commissioner. That summer we fixated on the Hayden Pass fire looming over Coaldale. We also experienced a second year of dramatic increase in tourist visitation. It felt like the end of an era, and there was certainly a sense of angst about the future.

As I campaigned through that summer, sharing my thoughts while absorbing the input of many others, something became crystal clear to me: our county needed to have a “community conversation about conservation.” As soon as possible. There was an ominous feeling that we were about to walk through a one-way door, that so much of what we loved about Chaffee County was suddenly at hazard. Taking office early in 2017, I was driven by a feeling of “now or never.”

The Envision Chaffee County project was exactly what was needed. And I’ll always feel indebted to the small team who worked to design that facilitated process. As a community we identified our values, articulated them into visions, and then built the action plans to make those visions a reality. A conservation finance measure was both one of the actions and also an essential tool for the realization of many others, providing key funding in support of Forest Health, Successful Agriculture, and Sustainable Recreation.

Over the last six years, Chaffee Common Ground has generated \$9.4 million in funding to address our landscape-scale challenges. And true to the promises made during the election campaign, the money has not simply been spent; it’s been leveraged as local match to acquire grants totaling \$35 million in value.

Other promises have also been kept. We promised to build a grant program that is highly transparent and accountable. These annual reports have provided an audit of the past year’s expenses and investments. We promised to fund projects and programs that are transferable and scalable, acknowledging that Chaffee County is not an island and that true success would see our efforts reproduced across Colorado. We promised to minimize administrative expense, and have kept that line item well

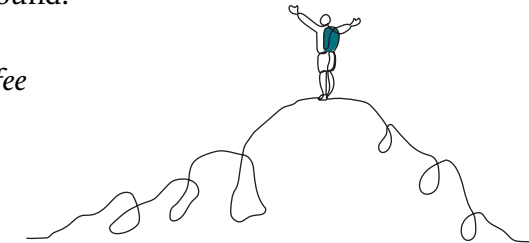
below 5% each year. And we promised to assemble a panel of subject matter experts to guide our work in these various technical pursuits. The Chaffee Common Ground Citizens Advisory Committee has done a phenomenal job of building out the grant program and providing funding guidance to our Board of County Commissioners.

In 2016, the people of Chaffee County expressed grave concerns about our future. In 2018, united around the slogan “Protect What You Love,” they voted to tax themselves and our visitors to fund a suite of programs that would safeguard that future. Now, in 2024, with six years of implementation and success to inspire and inform us, Chaffee Common Ground has become both a wildly successful Chaffee County institution and a guiding light for other communities in Colorado. Our grant-funded initiatives set the bar and led the conversation regarding wildfire mitigation, balancing outdoor recreation, and supporting agriculture across the state.

I am term-limited as county commissioner and wrap up my service at the end of 2024. It has been one of the great experiences of my life to join with so many dedicated and motivated citizens in taking aggressive action to protect what we love. Not only have we had success in achieving the mission, we’ve also learned that we truly can come together, listen to one another, articulate a vision and a plan, and then go out there and make it happen.

The names and faces of local elected officials do not persist long in the collective memory of a community. I am sure I will be no exception. But I am also sure that the legacy we built together since the summer of 2016 will indeed persist and guide the next generation in their understanding of what it means to be a citizen in Chaffee County and what it feels like to live in A Future Built on Common Ground.

— Greg Felt is the Board of County Commissioner’s liaison for the Chaffee Common Ground Citizens Advisory Committee.





Cumulative Investments in Chaffee County's Landscapes

Since 2018 when the Chaffee Common Ground Fund was created by voters, the program has worked to protect the county's spectacular scenic views, interconnected forest ecosystems, clean water, and wildlife habitats that define our community's unique character. The lands are not only critical to the local economy, they are foundational to our quality of life and that of our kids and grandkids, should they be so lucky to live here.

The Fund's investments over the past six years total \$9.4 million toward healthy forests and wildfire resiliency, working agricultural lands, and sustainable outdoor recreation. These grants went to 54 different local groups and partnerships for more than 80 programs and projects. Associated matching investments and in-kind services will bring \$35 million in benefits to the community by 2027.

	2019		2020		2021		2022	
	Grant Awards	Match	Grant Awards	Match	Grant Awards	Match	Grant Awards	Match
Forest Health & Fire Resilience	\$258,330	\$16,804	\$747,650	\$711,838	\$2,195,690	\$8,741,721	\$519,205	\$1,079,642
Sustainable Agriculture & Rural Conservation	\$1,445,000	\$6,988,900	\$54,884	\$94,555	\$249,640	\$1,260,651	\$208,100	\$178,675
Recreation Impacts Management	\$110,499	\$102,077	\$48,571	\$264,507	\$183,001	\$488,273	\$162,700	\$495,054
Totals	\$1,813,829	\$7,107,781	\$851,105	\$1,070,900	\$2,628,331	\$10,490,645	\$890,005	\$1,753,371

With \$4.9 million from the Common Ground Fund invested in reducing the potential impacts of a wildfire, the Forest Health Council has reduced forest fuels on nearly 15,000 acres, or half the lands identified for strategic treatments in the Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

About \$2.9 million for sustainable agricultural operations is supporting programs that combat challenges ranchers and farmers face as they strive to keep lands in production during a period of fast-paced growth and change. The grant program is helping to keep more than 8,000 acres in production and 50 miles of irrigation ditches flowing through these long-term investments.

Outdoor recreation grants equaling \$1.6 million have been leveraged to bring a total \$2.4 million in value to the table for planning and management solutions during a time of soaring visitation to public lands. Results improve recreation areas, restore impacted lands, manage waste, decrease erosion, and educate more visitors.



Since 2018 when the Chaffee Common Ground Fund was created by voters, the program has worked to protect the county's spectacular scenic views, interconnected forest ecosystems, clean water, and wildlife habitats that define our community's unique character.

	2023		2024		TOTAL	
	Grant Awards	Match	Grant Awards	Match	Grant Awards	Match
Forest Health & Fire Resilience	\$450,451	\$398,861	\$747,526	\$2,436,673	\$4,918,852	\$13,385,539
Sustainable Agriculture & Rural Conservation	\$588,077	\$137,224	\$333,000	\$1,091,187	\$2,878,701	\$9,751,192
Recreation Impacts Management	\$402,800	\$299,531	\$698,259	\$766,568	\$1,605,830	\$2,416,010
Totals	\$1,441,328	\$835,616	\$1,778,785	\$4,294,428	\$9,403,383	\$25,552,741



Leveraging Public Funding

Common Ground strives to balance investments among three focus areas, as outlined in the 2018 1-A ballot measure that was approved to create the grant-making program. Dedicated funding is as follows: 25% to “strengthening forest health and addressing wildfire resiliency”; 25% to “conserving and supporting working ranches and farms and rural landscapes”; and 5% to “managing the impacts of recreation growth.” The remaining 45% is allocated among the three categories, minus administrative costs that are capped at 5%. Administrative expenses in 2024 were \$17,500 or less than 1% of the Fund’s revenues.

Common Ground’s grant-making process encourages collaborative partnerships that produce results across the county, by assigning greater value to proposals that address multiple program goals. Annual revenues are balanced through grants of up to five years to increase cash and in-kind matches, and to leverage local dollars to the highest extent. To date, the dedicated sales tax has been leveraged by nearly 4X to benefit the citizens of Chaffee County.

In 2024, \$1,616,745 was awarded to 16 recipients, with matching cash and in-kind funds totaling \$5,703,011. These projects are outlined throughout this report.

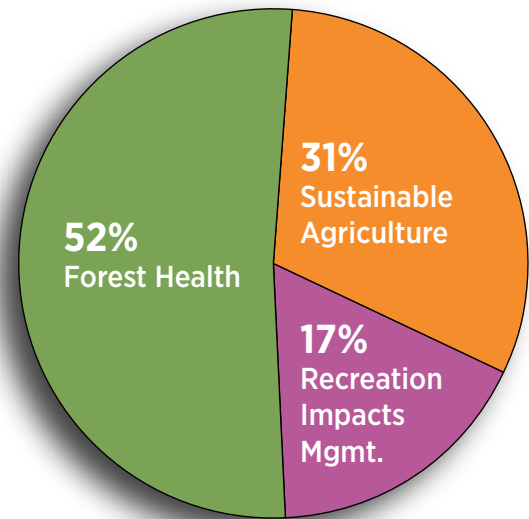


Chaffee Chips has removed 2,800 slash piles during fire mitigation events.



About one-third of the Common Ground Fund is invested so far in programs that help sustain rural landscapes by supporting working agriculture in Chaffee County.

Distribution of Funds through 2024



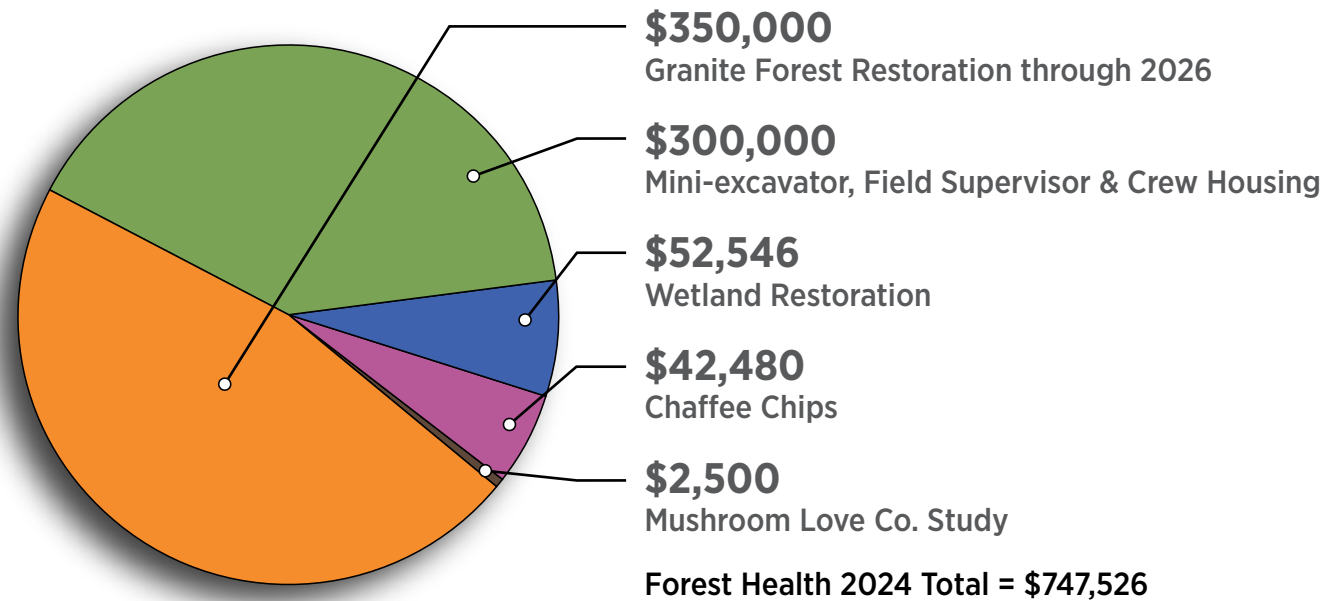
Investing in Forest Health & Wildfire Resilience

Like many communities in the American West, Chaffee County’s forest health is poor due to insect infestations, drought, and decades of fire suppression. Wildfires are a serious threat as human life and property, as well as water and wildlife health remain at risk. Common Ground revenues are delivering measurable and significant results through strategic treatments and collaborative programs that help build a more fire-ready future.

The work is driven by the 50-plus members of the Forest Health Council, who collaboratively plan and fund strategies outlined in the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)’s Bang for the Buck Map, which is Chaffee County’s roadmap toward better wildfire resiliency. The map (at right) shows the lands to treat to reduce the threat of wildfire to the community’s most important assets — firefighter lives, drinking water supply, communications infrastructure, and homes, as well as economic assets like trails and the Arkansas River. The map — created by the Colorado Forest Restoration Institute at Colorado State University (CFRI) with extensive input from local forest professionals and the public — is the basis for the CWPP’s main goal to treat 30,000 acres by 2030. Treatments involve “reducing fuels,” or thinning trees by hand, machine and low-intensity prescribed fire. Forest thinning also benefits wildlife by improving the habitat for many different species.

More than 50 members of the Forest Health Council are collaborating to deliver strategic forest treatments across the landscape that improve wildfire resiliency for the entire community and our most important assets.

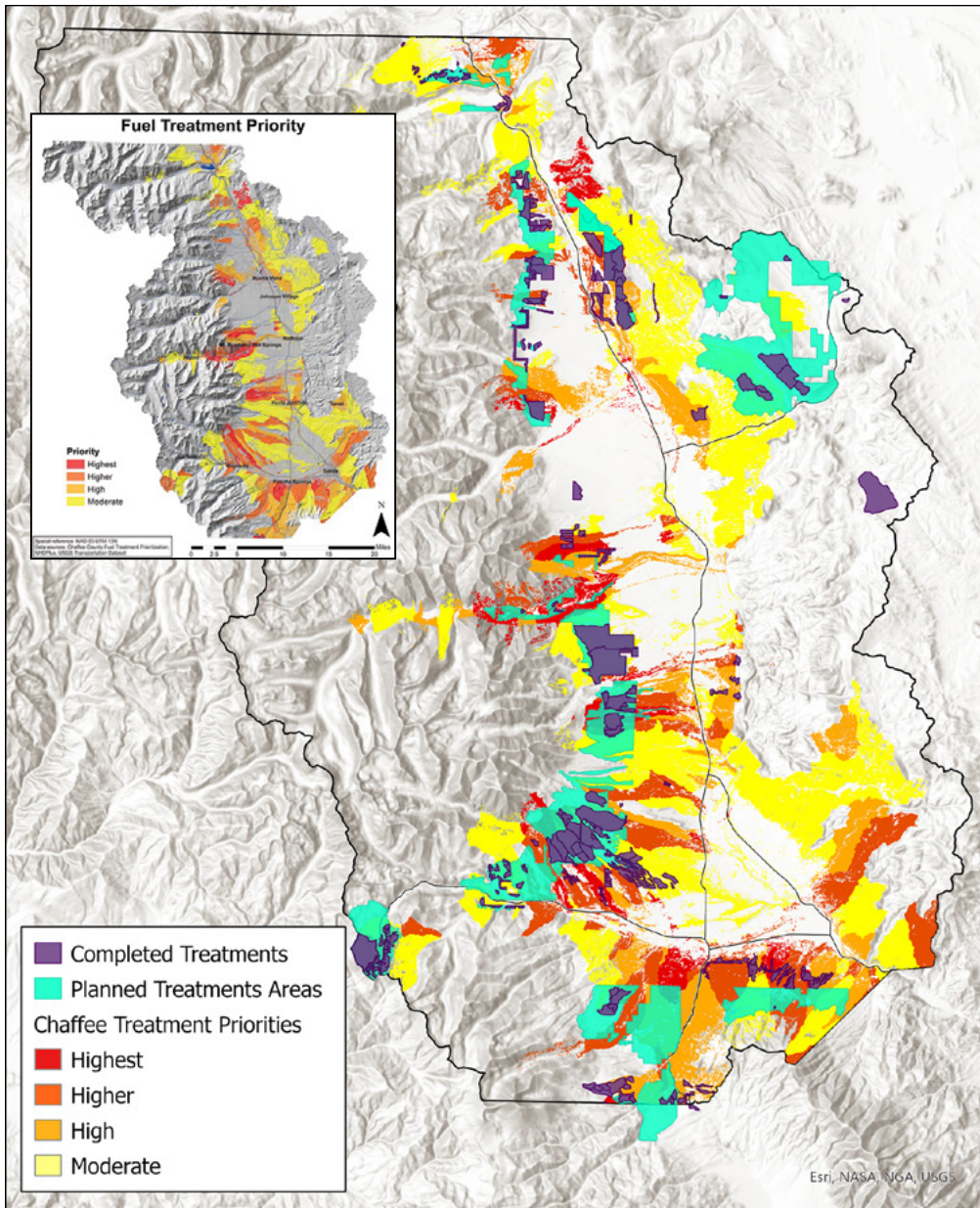
Forest Health 2024



By leveraging \$4.9 million from the Common Ground Fund, Forest Health Council partners have raised more than \$30 million additional funds in five years for community wildfire resiliency. The partners use the map to create effective forest treatment projects together, by collaborating to connect tree thinning across the landscape.

In 2024, Common Ground invested \$747,526 in forest projects, including a two-year grant to address more than 400 forested acres through a new project near Granite in northern Chaffee County.

An award for \$300,000 for equipment, staff



Chaffee County's Treatment Priority Areas (red, orange and yellow) are based on computer modeling that identifies the right areas to treat to reduce fire's potential affects on critical community infrastructure and improve firefighter safety. 10K+ acres have been thinned (purple) since 2020, and 13K additional acres are planned (teal) to achieve the long-term goal of treating 30K targeted acres by 2030.

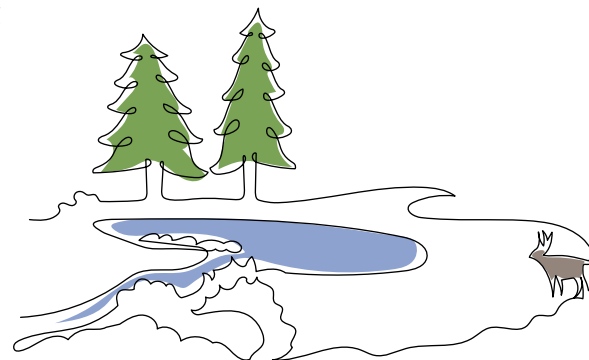
and crew housing helps Colorado Firecamp's students get real-time experience in chainsaw operation while removing hazardous fuels from high-priority lands. Based in Maysville, the school trains about 900 students a year in wildland firefighting.

In 2024, Common Ground supported Chaffee Chips with a \$42,480 grant to help landowners create defensible space. Since its inception in 2020, 800 landowners have spent 9,000 hours building 2,800 slash piles that were removed from high fire danger neighborhoods. Service partners include the Colorado State Forest Service, Chaffee County Fire Protection District, and Envision Chaffee County.

A \$52,546, three-year grant to Colorado Open Lands will help develop beaver-wetland restoration projects, including an extension of a project on Fourmile Creek started in 2023 by the U.S. Forest Service, EcoMetrics, Chaffee Rec Adopters and other community organizations. Benefits include wildfire risk reduction and riparian restoration to promote healthier watersheds.

A mini grant in 2024 to Mushroom Love Co. of Buena Vista will test a locally sourced mushroom strain for bio-waste reduction, to determine if slash could break down more quickly and support plant growth, as has been demonstrated at a lower elevation in Colorado.

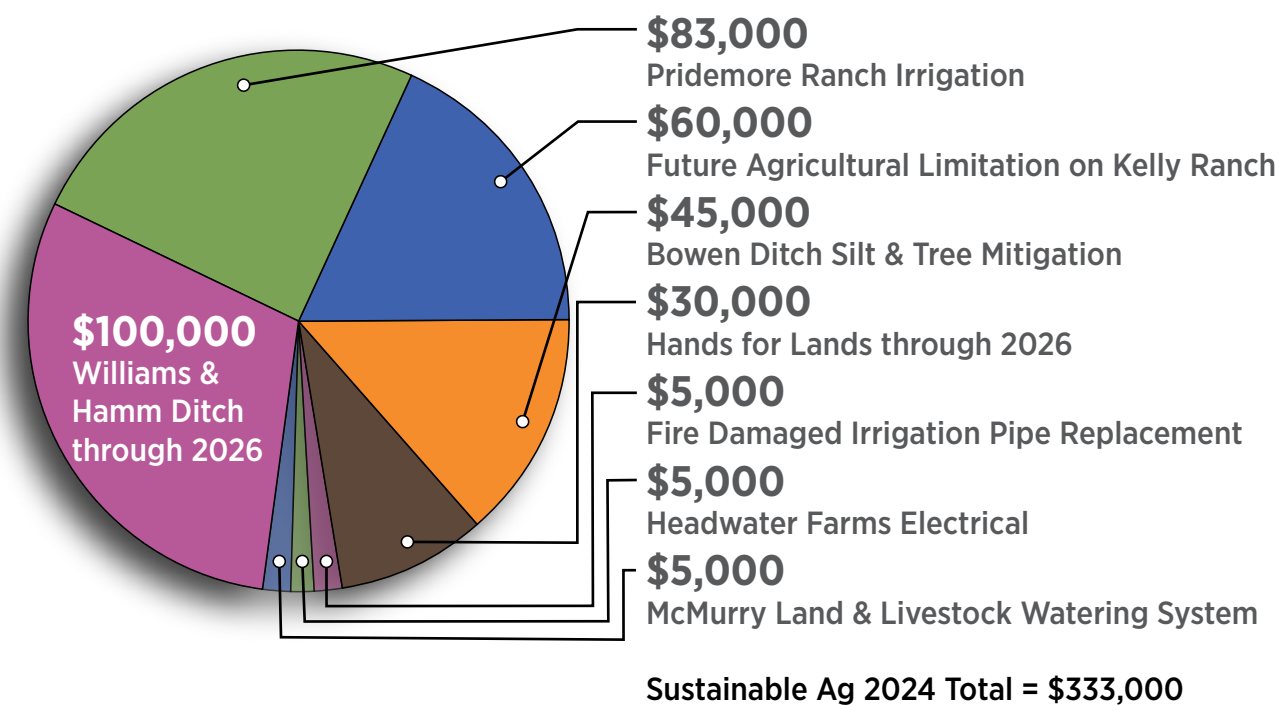
Chaffee County is one of only a few communities in the West to vote for public funding of forest restoration projects. The tax proves a local commitment to reducing the potential impacts of wildfire and improving overall forest health.



Chaffee Common Ground Annual Report 2024



Sustainable Agriculture 2024



Chaffee Common Ground Annual Report 2024

Investing in Sustainable Agriculture & Rural Landscapes

Since its inception, Common Ground has awarded \$2.9 million in grants to help sustain rural landscapes and the county's working lands. Investments over six years include traditional conservation easements that protect lands in perpetuity, as well as shorter-term conservation agreements that keep lands in production during a time of fast-paced growth and change.

The benefits of land conservation are highly visible in areas with expansive views, natural beauty and habitat for pronghorn, elk, wild turkeys, raptors and many other species. Benefits of working agriculture also include locally produced food and associated economic contribution, recharged aquifers through irrigation, and a connection to the community's heritage and culture.

Common Ground contributed to traditional conservation easements on the Centerville, Arrowpoint, Tri Lazy W (Rawhide), and Lewis ranches, totaling more than 3,500 acres of permanent land preservation. Community Conservation Connection offers voluntary and temporary conservation agreements to landowners of at least 150 acres who are active agricultural producers.

Common Ground grants administered by Central Colorado Conservancy provide annual payments on a per-acre basis through the Conservation Connection program, in exchange for continuing production, limiting new development, and protecting scenic views, water resources and wildlife habitat. So far, 10 ranches covering 3,400 acres are participating, representing 5.4% of the county's working agricultural lands, at a cost of about \$46,000 a year.

In addition to land conservation, the Common Ground Fund invests in irrigation systems and grazing practices to help ranchers repair old infrastructure and embrace new technology as they work to keep their businesses viable. For example, eight ditch systems and 50 miles of ditches that serve 8,600 acres of productive land have been supported since 2021.



Common Ground investments help keep working lands working during a period of fast-paced growth and change. The benefits of agriculture include locally produced food and its economic contribution, scenic views, local water and wildlife habitat preservation, as well as a connection to our heritage.

The county’s intricate yet aging irrigation ditch system delivers the vast green vistas that we all enjoy. Agricultural irrigation recharges ground water supply, preserves local water resources for the long term, and supports important wildlife habitat. Many of the county’s ditches were hand-dug more than a century ago, and they could have fallen into permanent disrepair without support for maintenance projects that keep the water flowing.

Irrigation ditch projects involve headgate and culvert replacement, sediment and vegetation removal, erosion control, and underground piping in a developing neighborhood. Benefits include stronger water flows, reduced instances of seepage and breaches, increased assurance that deeded water is delivered, and fewer negative interactions with new rural homeowners. Many grants have been matched by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

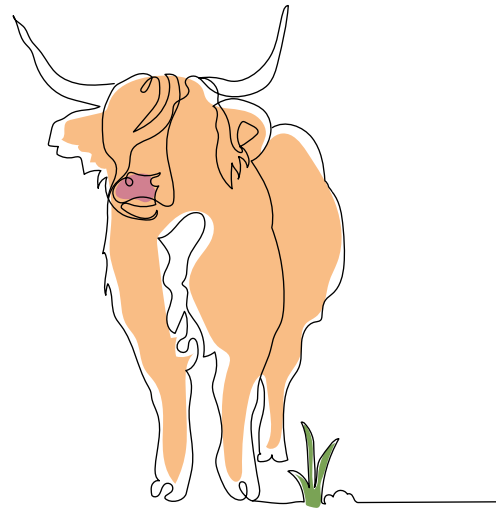
Common Ground grants also address challenges among ranchers due to growing outdoor recreation, by funding projects that protect rich grassy zones from overuse and create safer access for livestock (and wildlife) to reach water sources.

The program also helps ranchers more efficiently manage cattle movement, location and forage quality by supporting the installation of “virtual” fencing infrastructure. Nineteen radio towers resulted in 90% coverage of the county’s grazing lands. Today, 1,000 cattle are collared and connected to the system, which is being used by 30% of the county’s ranchers — mostly on their cell phones.

In 2024, newly funded ditch maintenance projects are located on the Williams & Hamm and Bowen ditches. Additional irrigation system improvements or repairs were funded on the Pridemore, Kelly, and McMurray ranches.

Among sustainable agriculture grants in 2024 totaling \$333,000 is a \$30,000, three-year grant to Central Colorado Conservancy for a staff position to manage the Hands for Lands volunteer program, which links volunteers with producers to implement on-the-ground stewardship projects such as help with springtime ditch clearing.

Finally, a mini grant was awarded in 2024 to bring electricity to the site of Headwater Farm and Meadows Edge Farm in Buena Vista, to run irrigation pumps, greenhouses, walk-in coolers and other infrastructure.



Among \$1.4 million invested in managing outdoor recreation impacts are multiple grants to local organizations that are working to manage human and pet waste. In 2024, Salida Mountain Trails received funding for toilets at the Burmac Trailhead and installed dog waste stations along the town’s popular system of trails.

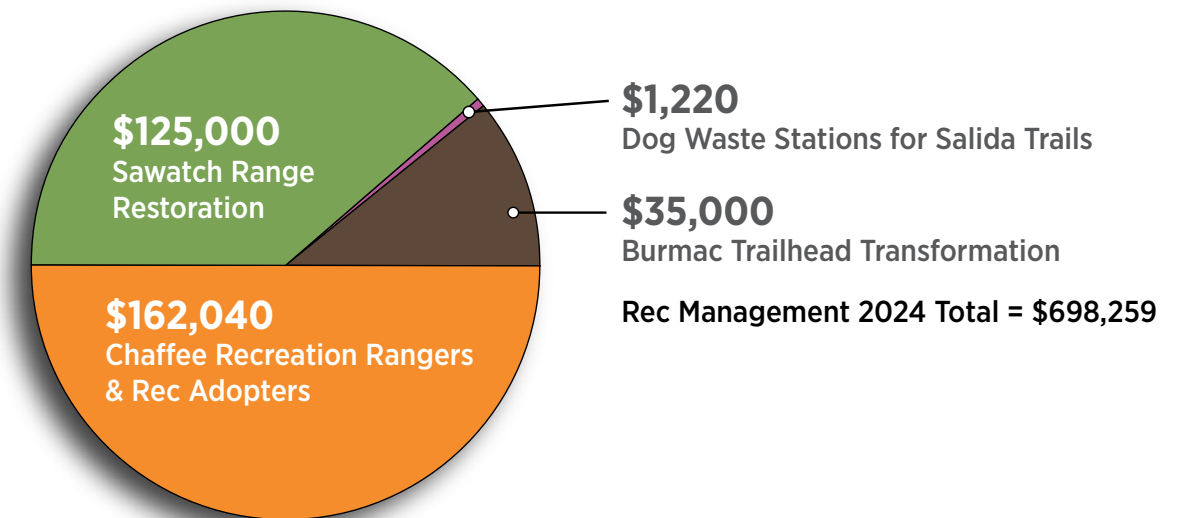
Investing in Outdoor Recreation Management

Chaffee County is working to manage recreation so the outdoors stays clean, fun, and wild now and into the future. The county approved the outdoor recreation plan in 2021 in partnership with agencies and the public to ensure that growing visitation is managed sustainably. The vision is to protect natural resources and maintain the exceptional outdoor experiences that support local lifestyles and the economy.

The Chaffee Recreation Council is leading the effort to implement initiatives outlined in the plan. Altogether, the county now has more necessary infrastructure, more staff and volunteerism, and more effort to encourage better outdoor ethics. Local partners in the outdoors are getting the right resources in place and cleaning up overused lands to support quality, clean opportunities — restrooms, trash disposal, designated campsites — all contributing to a healthier environment and supported in-part by the Chaffee Common Ground Fund.

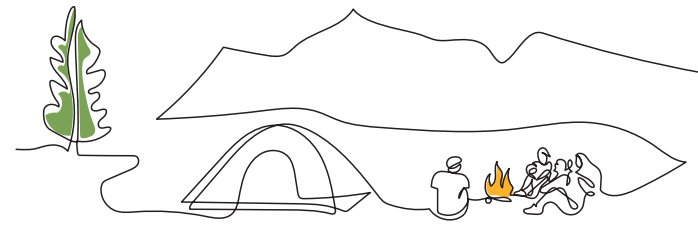
When asked what they value most about Chaffee County, both residents and visitors consistently respond that it is the outdoor recreation opportunities and the natural beauty make this place special. Yet there is a broad and growing concern about “loving it to death.” Overuse and irresponsible use are cited as top reasons for declines, which include environmental concerns

Recreation Impacts Management 2024





like seeing less wildlife. To protect these values that people treasure, Common Ground has invested \$1.4 million in projects that manage the impacts of recreation.



For example, the Planning for Wildlife Map identifies the location of remaining, undisturbed wildlife habitat. The tool was created with local biologists for trails and land use planning, and to enhance the most important habitat in conjunction with forest fire mitigation projects.

Common Ground also supports a Porta Potty program, managed by GARNA, to address the need for more toilets at busy trailheads and dispersed camping areas. Two dozen portable toilets are keeping 10,000 gallons of waste out of the environment each season.

The program has invested in better camping management to address impacts such as trash, human waste, vegetation destruction, erosion, and human-caused wildfire risk associated with the county's 3,000 documented dispersed campsites. Funding supports a large-scale conversion to a lower-impact model of designating campsites, by investing in the purchase of numbered site posts, metal campfire rings, and signage to explain camping regulations.

Programs that continue to be funded by Common Ground include Chaffee Recreation Rangers and Rec Adopters, which together add boots on the ground to improve management and monitoring of the county's popular recreation areas. Eight Rangers are funded to patrol federal and state lands while educating visitors, enforcing laws and implementing engineering solutions such as natural fencing to contain dispersed campsites and protect vegetation. Patrol staff have contact with thousands of visitors each season while also removing trash, putting out abandoned campfires, and writing warnings or citations when appropriate.

Chaffee Rec Adopters helps volunteers care for the lands they love. Created in tandem with Rec Rangers to improve stewardship, management and monitoring of the county's public lands, the program empowers hundreds of volunteers through two dozen organized events each season to clean up recreation areas and improve wildlife habitat. Restoration projects include removing old barbed wire fencing and installing low-tech beaver dam analogues. Volunteers have spent a combined 2,400 hours volunteering, removing 60 tons of trash and campfire ash in just three years.



Common Ground supports new metal campfire rings for safety (top picture) and cleanups (bottom) to help manage outdoor visitation.

In 2024, among a total \$766,568 invested in recreation management, Common Ground awarded \$125,000 to the Sawatch Range Restoration project to manage visitor use of the county's 14ers and other backcountry lands. The grant to the National Forest Foundation is for the first of a five-year project among NFF, Envision Chaffee County, Chaffee Recreation Council, U.S. Forest Service, and Great Outdoors Colorado.

A Burmac trailhead transformation project led by Salida Mountain Trails (SMT) was supported in 2024 with a \$35,000 award toward the cost of waste management at the location along Highway 50 just south of Salida. SMT also received a mini grant in 2024 to install three dog waste stations on Methodist Mountain at popular trailheads. SMT's program includes an educational component to inform trail users of the consequences of unmanaged pet waste, as well as local business sponsorship of the stations and volunteer recruitment for a new "SMT Poo Crew."

Tourism and population continue to grow as land agency dollars to manage the impacts decline, creating a funding gap that Common Ground is helping to fill.



Common Ground investments help keep the county's system of trails and river access clean, fun and sustainable as outdoor recreation use grows.



Commitment to the Community

The Citizens Advisory Committee oversees the Chaffee Common Ground grant program, and makes funding recommendations to the county commissioners. Members of the committee in 2024 are featured below:

Cindy Williams – Committee Chair



Cindy is Co-lead of Envision Chaffee County and was instrumental in funding, planning and advancing Envision’s community outreach that led to the passage of Ballot Issue 1A, which generates revenues for the Chaffee Common Ground Fund.

She currently facilitates and leads community convener programs for Envision that address quality-of-life concerns identified by residents: Community Wildfire Protection Plan implemented by the Envision Forest Health Council; and the Chaffee Recreation Plan led by the Chaffee Rec Council and developed through the Envision Recreation in Balance program. She also serves on the Dean’s Council, Warner College of Natural Resources, Colorado State University.

Cindy was named Heart of the Rockies Chamber of Commerce Woman of the Year in 2019, nominated by Chaffee County Commissioner and Envision Co-lead Greg Felt, who called her a “Force of Nature” in her volunteer work. She has extensive leadership

and community engagement experience across 17 countries as the former vice president of Newmont Mining’s global exploration and business opportunity creation division.

Michael Hannigan – Committee Vice Chair



Michael is a fourth-generation Colorado native who served for 18 years as CEO of the Pikes Peak Community Foundation, where he oversaw grant distributions totaling nearly \$100 million. He has nearly 40 years of experience in the nonprofit sector and served as the interim executive director of the Chaffee County Community Foundation.

Michael founded and served as managing director of Aspen Valley Ranch in Woodland Park. The 300-acre ranch is a wildfire training center for professionals and homeowners, among many other activities. He helped preserve and manage the historic Venetucci Farm in Colorado Springs, gaining experience in water rights, private land conservation, and support for local food-oriented entrepreneurial efforts.

He managed the Emergency Relief Fund that aided the Pikes Peak Region after the Waldo Canyon and Black Canyon fires and resulting floods in Manitou Springs and Colorado Springs. He was a member of Chaffee County Search and Rescue-North, and has lived full-time in Chaffee County since 2017.

Michael Fischer



A native son of Wyoming, Michael has had a deep connection to the natural world his entire life. He and his wife, Marsha, brought that sense of deep connection with them from Alaska when they moved to Chaffee County in 2014.

Michael is deeply invested in facilitating the decisions to keep our wild lands wild but also safe from a wildfire disaster, and to support local agriculture to continue the rich, rural lifestyle cherished by those who live here and desired by those who visit. Being a member of the Citizens’ Advisory Committee is the most recent means for Michael to support the efforts of the many local people to maintain the best part of our local environment.

Ben Lenth



Ben has worked in the field of land conservation for nearly 20 years, including 10 years with nonprofit land trusts including his current role with Colorado Open Lands. Prior to that, he served as executive director of San Isabel Land Protection Trust in Westcliffe. Ben has worked with hundreds of landowners on conservation planning, and has raised and managed more than \$7 million for land protection, forest and stream restoration, and other conservation and nonprofit capacity projects across the state.

Ben has lived in Chaffee County with his family since 2015, after moving from Westcliffe where he served as vice-president of the Custer County Conservation District and managed a working ranch. Ben has a master’s degree in ecology from Colorado State University, has worked as a wildlife biologist for the US Forest Service, and served in the Peace Corps in Mexico, where he focused work on quantifying and marketing ecosystem services.

Jim LaRue

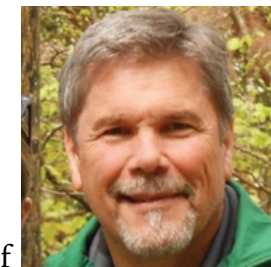


Jim LaRue has lived in Colorado all his life and in Chaffee County since 1992. He worked in residential construction until 2008,

when he and his wife decided to jump all-in on ranching. He has served on the Chaffee County Homebuilders Association, Chaffee County Right to Ranch Board and the Chaffee County Fair Board.

Jim was an active participant in the agriculture meetings during Envision Chaffee County’s initial planning phase, and he helped draft the county’s Right to Ranch ordinance. He is an active member of the Chaffee County Cattlemen’s Association, Colorado Cattlemen’s Association and the American Angus Association. His Post Office Ranch was the first to complete a conservation easement in Chaffee County, and he and his family have been active advocates of conservation easements ever since.

Paul Muelle



Paul has been involved in the environmental stewardship and outdoor recreation community for over 35 years. A graduate of Michigan State University with a degree in Landscape Architecture, he has served on multiple environmental non-profits, and advisory councils on the local, state and federal level during his career.

Prior to his retirement in 2016, he served as the Chief of Natural Resources and Environmental Compliance for the Huron-

Clinton Metropolitan Authority, a 5-county regional park agency in Southeast Michigan where he was responsible for the protection and management of over 25,000 acres of parkland, developing and coordinating projects in water resource protection, wildlife and forest management, and the preservation of the region’s biodiversity through restoring quality natural communities.

Paul and his wife Peggy, moved to Chaffee County from Michigan in 2020 and are actively enjoying Colorado.

Sydney Schnurr



Sydney is a founding board member of Chaffee County Community Foundation. She retired from the University of Cincinnati’s College Conservatory of Music where she taught in the Graduate Arts Administration Program.

Prior to that she was Development Director for the Cincinnati Shakespeare Festival and Associate Development Director for the Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park. She also served as President of the Greater Cincinnati Association of Fundraising Professionals and was a member of 100 Wise Women.

She and her husband moved to Buena Vista in 2017, where she has been an active member of the Midland Hikers. She has three daughters and nine grandchildren who keep her on her toes.

**Commissioner
Greg Felt –
Liaison for the Citizens
Advisory Committee**



Greg Felt is a second-term Chaffee County Commissioner. He also serves as Co-Lead of Envision Chaffee County and was a driving force behind the ballot measure that authorized funding for the Chaffee Common Ground program.

A fly-fishing guide and outfitter for over 30 years, Greg is deeply involved in natural resource issues and water planning at the state and local levels, currently serving as the Arkansas River Basin representative on the Colorado Water Conservation Board. He will assume the role of General Manager of the Upper Arkansas Water Conservation District at the end of his elected term in January 2025.



Contact & Follow Us!

This report is the sixth installment of Chaffee Common Ground's commitment to accountability made during the campaign to support the ballot measure that funds the program through a 0.25% sales tax.

Common Ground promises transparency so that the community is aware of how public funds are distributed to achieve program goals as outlined to voters in 2018. All meetings are noticed and grant cycles are publicly announced. Funding applications are evaluated using criteria that ties awards to values outlined in the ballot measure. Applications receiving the highest scores are funded.

For more information, visit chaffeecommonground.org or contact Program Administrator Ben Doon at ccg.cac@gmail.com.

