

# Final Youth Corps Grant Report

ROUNDUP RIDERS OF THE ROCKIES  
HERITAGE & TRAILS FOUNDATION

SUMMER/FALL 2013



Colorado Youth Corps Association  
[www.CYCA.org](http://www.CYCA.org)

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# Program Summary

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In 2012 Roundup Riders of the Rockies Trails & Heritage Foundation provided Colorado Youth Corps Association (CYCA) with \$15,000 to help support youth corps work on equestrian trails throughout Colorado in 2013. Equestrian trail construction and maintenance work was completed by four youth corps in five different locations in the Front Range, southwest and northwest regions. The goal of all of the projects was to increase access and safety for equestrians and others.

Roundup Riders funding was primarily dedicated to crew support such as food, fuel, transportation, general supplies and camping gear, training, supervision, equipment and tools.

Initially it was proposed that two weeks of work would be conducted at Golden Gate Canyon State Park by Mile High Youth Corps. State Parks received new funding to repair and replace boundary fencing so the scope of the project was shifted. Mile High Youth Corps re-allocated the funds to help support the Fehringer Ranch Trail Construction Project with Jefferson County Open Space.

In total, 48 corpmembers provided 3,480 hours of youth corps labor in Rocky Mountain National Park, Pitkin County, Jefferson County, El Paso County and in the San Isabel National Forest.

# North Inlet & Tonahutu Trails

## Rocky Mountain National Park

National Park Service  
Rocky Mountain Youth Corps

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### PROJECT SUMMARY

Rocky Mountain Youth Corps' (RMYC) trail crew completed 4 weeks of work on the North Inlet Trail, a stretch of woods through the southwestern portion of Rocky Mountain National Park, with the work concentrated within the first few miles from Grand Lake, Colorado. The original plan was to pair RMYC trail crew members with National Park staff to work side by side operating out of a backcountry campsite. Horse pack strings were to shuttle supplies and food into the camp, and the crew would complete heavy rock work and other general trail maintenance to permit safe horse and foot travel on this section of the CDT.

The project was a success despite some slight deviations from the original plan. More front-country work sites were found to need work (rather than more far-flung sites) and the organization of pack strings and ability to negotiate a backcountry project site were not possible at that point in the season. However, the crew accomplished quite a bit on other parts of the trail.

This is a trail which is heavily used by pack strings and horseback riders of all skill levels and for varying purposes. Two local outfitters, Winding River Ranch and Sombrero Stables, both visited the project while it was underway and expressed their gratitude for the crew's work. Both outfitters and local individual riders will have a better experience because of the work that has been done on North Inlet – a section that was once braided and enlarged due to seasonal wetness will be brought back to its original state due to these improvements. Roundup Riders supplemental funds were used to bolster budget for tools, equipment, transportation, and food for the crew who spent these weeks in Rocky Mountain National Park.

### PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 137 feet of elevated tread installed
- 12 feet of elevated tread maintained
- 4 water diversion structures installed
- 2 rock steps installed



# North Inlet & Tonahutu Trails

Rocky Mountain National Park

National Park Service

Rocky Mountain Youth Corps

## PROJECT PHOTOS



# Cozyline Trail

## Sky Mountain Park, Snowmass Village

Pitkin County & Snowmass Village

Rocky Mountain Youth Corps

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### PROJECT SUMMARY

In the early summer of 2013, Rocky Mountain Youth Corps (RMYC) spent 6 weeks building new tread surface on the Cozyline Trail just outside Snowmass Village, Colorado. A project that was initially planned for 2012, completion was only reached this summer when conditions were right to clear corridor with chainsaws before the crew arrived.

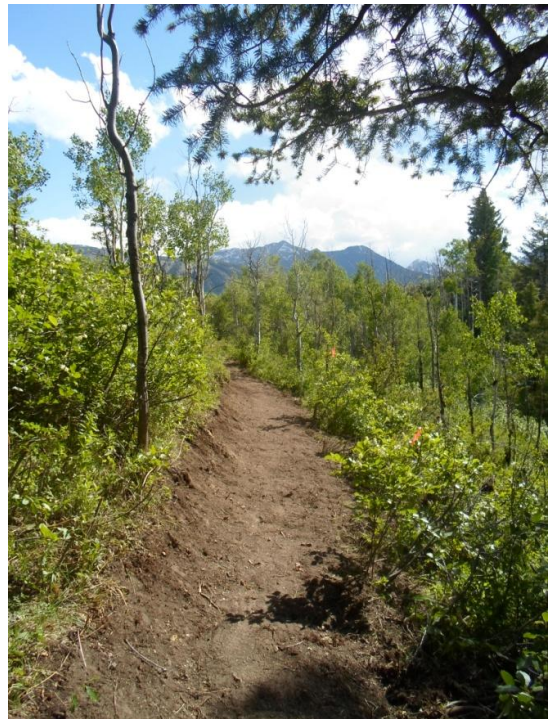
Much was achieved on this project – the trail was completed as planned – and the project partners were bowled over by the success of the crew. “[The] crew was amazing. Very willing to learn and worked incredibly hard. The quality of trail was excellent. Very pleased with this crew”, said Gary Tennenbaum, project partner with Pitkin County.

The trail will come to be used by riders of all levels who visit Sky Mountain Park, a network of trails above Snowmass Village that will include educational displays and beautiful vistas of the county. The Roaring Fork Horse Council and all users of the trail network and the Cozy Point Ranch Equestrian facility will appreciate the improvements made to their popular riding areas by RMYC this summer.

Roundup Riders supplemental funds were used for tools, transportation, and food for the crew to extend the amount of weeks they were able to complete on this project.

### PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 1.5 miles of trail constructed
- ¾ mile of trail improved/maintained
- 264 feet of trail re-vegetated/closed



# Cozyline Trail

Sky Mountain Park, Snowmass Village  
Pitkin County & Snowmass Village  
Rocky Mountain Youth Corps

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## PROJECT PHOTOS



# Fehringer Ranch Trail

Fehringer Ranch Open Space  
Foothills Parks and Recreation District  
Mile High Youth Corps

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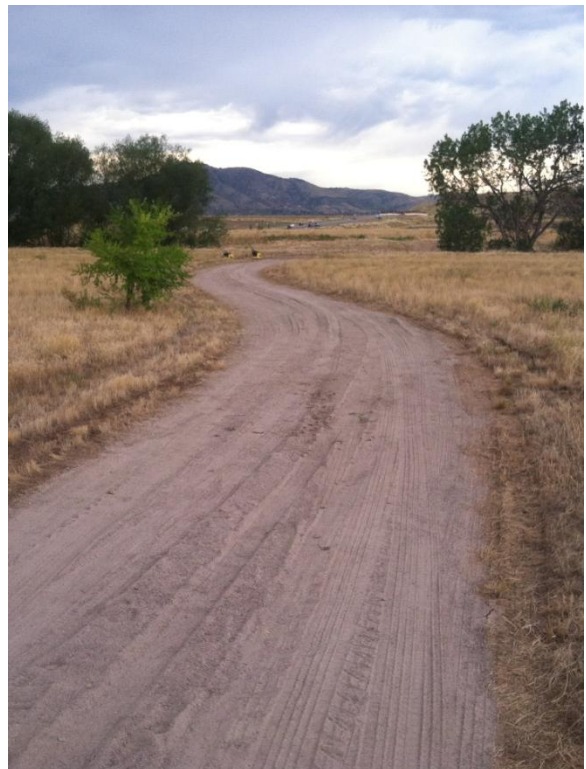
## PROJECT SUMMARY

In September 2013, Mile High Youth Corps crewmembers spent two weeks of work constructing a new 1.5 mile multi-use trail at the new Fehringer Ranch Open Space in Lakewood, Colorado. The trail allows for equestrian use and the work included capping, crowning and compacting over 200 yards of crusher fines and base material for the 8-foot wide trail. The development of this trail provides a safer access for riders that will utilize the newly acquired open space.

Initially, project funds were requested to be used for the Golden Gate Canyon State Park – Mule Deer Trail. Unfortunately, focus on the Mule Deer Trail shifted when Golden Gate Canyon State Park received new funding to repair and replace boundary fencing. In lieu of this change, Roundup Rider funds were reallocated to help support the Fehringer Ranch Trail Construction Project. Funds were used for crew and project support primarily, as well as fuel and tool purchases.

## PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Capped, crowned and compacted over 200 yards of crusher fines and base material for 8 foot wide trail.
- 2 culverts installed
- 2 truckloads of expired farm debris hauled away to trash dump



# Fehringer Ranch Trail

## Fehringer Ranch Open Space

Foothills Parks and Recreation District

Mile High Youth Corps

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### PROJECT PHOTOS





# Colorado Divide Trail – Winfield/Clear Creek

## U.S. Forest Service Property

San Isabel National Forest, Leadville Ranger District  
Southwest Conservation Corps – Los Valles

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### PROJECT SUMMARY

In late June 2013, a crew from the Southwest Conservation Corps – Los Valles (SCC-LV) completed two weeks of trail work on the Colorado Divide Trail. Although the project site was originally designated in the Tincup Pass/Woodchopper Basin area of the Colorado Divide Trail, the youth corps' Leadville Ranger District project partner redirected the crew to a nearby section of the trail in the Winfield/Clear Creek area. The project took place on U.S. Forest Service property that is managed by the San Isabel National Forest.

Users in the area are primarily pedestrian and equestrian. The crew focused on quarrying rocks and installing rock turnpikes. The trail improvements completed by the youth corps crew have improved safety, trail sustainability, and quality of experience for equestrian users.

Roundup Rider funds for this project were dedicated to crew support including fuel, food, camping gear, protective equipment and trail tools.

### PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 250 ft. of rocks quarried and sorted
- 127 ft. of rock turnpike installed
- 133 cu. ft. of crush fill applied
- 1 rock check step installed



# Colorado Divide Trail – Winfield/Clear Creek

U.S. Forest Service Property  
San Isabel National Forest, Leadville Ranger District  
Southwest Conservation Corps – Los Valles

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## PROJECT PHOTOS



# Bear Creek Regional Trail Connection

## El Paso County

El Paso County Parks and Recreation District  
Mile High Youth Corps – Colorado Springs

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### PROJECT SUMMARY

This project was conducted by Mile High Youth Corps – Colorado Springs (MHYC-CS) during the summer 2013 season. The crew spent 4 weeks at Bear Creek Regional Park constructing new trail which connects Bear Creek Regional Trails with the Section 16 Trail System. Previously, equestrian traffic interested in traveling from the Penrose Equestrian Center to the well liked Section 16 Trail System, had to travel along the shoulder of a road with moderate to light traffic but with poor signage, no crossings and dimly lit in the evenings. The MHYC-CS crew spent their time building this new 8' wide connecting trail as well as providing ecological restoration along the trail corridor. This consisted of raking and seeding in disturbed areas, laying erosion control matting on adjacent steep slopes, and transplanting plugs of native grasses and forbes.

In order to construct the new trail, a route was selected by El Paso County Parks and Recreation staff which provides a sustainable grade for the trail tread. Several large rocks were removed from the trail tread and gradual climbing turns added to aid in equestrian travel. Roundup Riders funds for this project were dedicated to crew support such as fuel, ice, water coolers, personal protective equipment, communication, training, supervision, trail tools and vehicle maintenance.

### PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 1,300 feet of trail built
- 22,500 s.f. of erosion control matting installed
- 1 cairn built
- 15 feet of tread armoring installed
- 2 bags of seed spread
- 10 plants replanted
- 6 cubic yards of crusher material spread
- 1 climbing turn installed
- 10 bags of weeds pulled
- 1 grade dip installed



# Bear Creek Regional Trail Connection

El Paso County

El Paso County Parks and Recreation District

Mile High Youth Corps – Colorado Springs

## PROJECT PHOTOS



# Financial Summary

CYCA received \$15,000 to support a portion of 9 weeks of youth corps equestrian trail work scheduled in 2013. Each of these weeks of work was 85% funded by the following project sponsors:

- North Inlet & Tonahutu Trail – National Park Service
- Cozyline Trail – Pitkin County Open Space and Trails
- Fehringer Ranch Trail – Jefferson County Open Space
- Colorado Divide Trail, Winfield/Clear Creek – United States Forest Service
- Bear Creek Regional Trail Connection – El Paso County

For all projects Roundup Riders provided the remaining 15% (approx. \$1,000/wk) to be dedicated to crew support.

Budget Actuals.

Item	Detail	Cost
Food	Approx. \$384/week @ 7 weeks	\$2,690
Fuel and Transportation	Approx. \$444/week @ 9 weeks	\$3,996
General Supplies and Gear	Approx. \$224/week @ 7 weeks	\$1,569
Training and Supervision	Approx. \$612/week @ 4 weeks	\$2,448
Equipment and Tools	Approx. \$310/week @ 9 weeks	\$2,797
Project Management	\$166.66/week @ 9 weeks	\$1,500
	TOTAL	\$15,000

**SUBMITTED BY:**  
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