Mission

The mission of the Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation is to ensure Utahns can live a healthy and active lifestyle through outdoor recreation. The office's Utah Outdoor Recreation Grant (UORG) helps communities make outdoor places more accessible through investment in new outdoor recreation infrastructure projects.

UORG Funding Summary 2015–2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>FUNDING</th>
<th>SUBMITTED</th>
<th>AWARDED</th>
<th>PROJECT VALUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$405,479</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>$1.8 Million</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$796,396</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$453,112</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$1,218,041</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>$33.1 Million</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$4,375,209</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>$35.6 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
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<td>97</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>$42.9 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$16,279,633</td>
<td>351</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>$121.4 Million</td>
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</table>

History

In 2013, Utah became the first state to create an Office of Outdoor Recreation. Since then, the office has become a national leader working to broaden the economic value of Utah’s outdoors through collaboration with various business and community partners. The office hosts an annual Outdoor Recreation Summit — the largest conference of its kind — bringing together attendees from various sectors for collaboration and sharing of best practices for outdoor recreation and outdoor-focused businesses.

In 2015, the office helped communities to build trails and other recreation infrastructure by awarding matching grants through a pilot program. Funding for the program increased the following year. Its success led to the Utah Legislature, creating a longer-term funding source to continue the grant program, now called the Utah Outdoor Recreation Grant.

Letter from the Director

I remember as a kid, seeing “Back to the Future” for the first time. That movie made me think about how one little action affects the future. I remember thinking everything I said or did could completely change the direction of my life.

I now realize how seemingly small improvements to outdoor recreation infrastructure transform daily life and the future of Utah. Building a few miles of trail close to a city or town can have an incredible effect on the local economy, business development, property values, and overall health and wellness.

With over 35 million acres of public land, over 20,000 miles of trails, and 550 access points across the state, it’s easy to see why so many people are attracted to our state. Utah is home to five national parks, 44 state parks and eight national monuments. Statewide, more than 65% of Utahns are within 15 minutes of a trailhead, with almost 90% recognizing the personal benefit they receive from this access. Spending as few as 20 minutes on a trail leads to measurable improvements in mental health. Communities with nearby trail infrastructure experience significant physical health benefits too, saving $3 in medical costs for every $1 invested in this infrastructure.

Easy access to Utah’s public lands and recreational opportunities is essential to growing the state’s economy. Not only does the proximity to trails increase property value and strengthen local economies, but it also gives employers a strong national recruitment advantage.

For the past decade, Utah has been one of the fastest-growing U.S. states. We’re known for our diverse economy, low unemployment rate and high job creation. Utah-based businesses claim that access to the outdoors and the state’s outdoorsy lifestyle is a primary reason they chose to be in Utah.

Many outdoor industry businesses are proud to call Utah home and contribute directly to its economy. From manufacturers to retailers, and from guides to outfitters and beyond, 110,000 Utah jobs come directly from outdoor recreation, totaling $4 billion in wages and salaries, and driving over $12 billion in direct consumer spending. Outdoor recreation helps grow and improve rural and gateway communities’ economies, creating critical business opportunities in smaller Utah communities.

As the first state to create an Office of Outdoor Recreation, Utah is a trailblazer. It was the first state to create an Office of Outdoor Recreation. Through the Utah Outdoor Recreation Grant program, the state demonstrates that investing in outdoor recreation infrastructure has lasting effects on the health and strength of its residents, businesses and the economy. Since the grant’s 2015 inception, a total of $16 million in Utah Outdoor Recreation Grant funding has been awarded to 213 projects in 25 Utah counties. Rural counties benefited from 60% of grant projects. Those 200-plus projects have a total project value of over $121 million, representing a rare jewel for Utah compared to other states. The six-year grant initiative proves Utah is committed to enhancing the quality of life for residents and improving access to the state’s remarkable outdoors for residents and visitors alike.

This is Utah, where we live Life Elevated and foster a unique culture of volunteerism, collaboration and service. We hope you’ll join us in Utah.

Sincerely,

Pitt Grewe
pgrewe@utah.gov
### 2020 Funding Stats

**59 Projects In 2020**

- **Jobs Supported:**
  - 68 Full-Time
  - 115 Part-Time
  - 192 Seasonal
- **64% of Funding to Rural Utah**
- **97 Applications Submitted**
- **20 Counties Received Project Funding**
- **$11.5 Million in Funding Requests**
- **7:1 Private/Public Leverage**
- **12 Activity Types Funded**
- **40 New Infrastructure Projects**
- **80.6 New Miles of Trail Funded**
- **$6,031,396 Awarded to Projects Valuing $43 Million**

### 2015-2020 Funding Stats

- **214 Projects awarded in 25 counties**
- **61% of project funding in rural Utah**
- **Applications Submitted: 351**
- **Over 390 miles of new trails funded**
- **$16 million awarded with a total project value of $121 million**

### Activities Funded

- **Camping**: Tents, RVs, yurts and hammocking
- **Outdoor Course**: Outdoor challenge courses, disc golf or ropes courses
- **Nature Enjoyment**: Wildlife viewing, wildlife photography, birdwatching and nature walks
- **Off-Road**: UTVs, ATVs and off-road motorcycles
- **Rock & Mountain**: Canyoneering, rappelling and all types of outdoor climbing
- **Fishing**: All recreational types
- **Shooting**: Archery, target shooting and biathlon
- **Snow**: Snowboarding, all skiing types, snowshoeing, snowmobiling and ice-skating in outdoor rinks
- **Trail (Natural Surface)**: Backpacking, trail running, mountain biking and fatbike riding
- **Water**: Canoeing, kayaking, rafting, stand-up paddle boarding, sailing, boating, swimming in lakes/ rivers and snorkeling
- **Wheel (Paved Surface)**: Recreational bicycling, skateboarding, scootering and rollerblading
Multiyear Funded Projects

The Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation supports the development of significant infrastructure projects in phases over multiple years. While many of the projects are completed in a single year, grant recipients have utilized the Utah Outdoor Recreation Grant to help fund large-scale recreational infrastructure improvements that take several years.

Multiyear projects demonstrate the state’s commitment to long-term plans that improve access to and recreation around a single site. We hope these examples inspire future grant applicants to think big.

1. Helper River
   - Helper River Revitalization - Phase III (2017) - Helper City
   - Helper River Revitalization - Phase IV (2018) - Helper City
   - Helper River Revitalization - Phase V (2019) - Helper City
   - Helper River Revitalization - Phase VI (2020) - Helper City

   The Helper River Revitalization project will enter its 6th phase in 2020. From the start, this project sought to bring together Helper residents, business owners, land managers and government officials. The results have been inspiring. In the four years the Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation has supported this project, the revitalization has removed obstacles in the river, retained high-risk banks and installed recreational amenities.

   Residents and visitors alike use the river for recreation again as Helper continues to build its reputation as a tourist destination.

2. Jackson Flat Reservoir
   - Jackson Flat Reservoir Recreation Facility and Trails (2016)
   - Jackson Flat Reservoir Recreation Infrastructure and Trails (2017)
   - Kanab City Connector Trail to Jackson Flat (2018)
   - Jackson Flat Reservoir Beach Park (2019)
   - Jackson Flat Reservoir Beach Park Climbing Boulders (2020)

   After the Jackson Flat Reservoir’s completion, there was a need to develop the site for recreation. Over the past five years, the Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation has helped support five separate projects centered around improving infrastructure.

   The Jackson Flat Reservoir project provides many benefits to residents of Kane County and visitors alike. This multiyear project includes installing picnic areas, bathrooms, boat launches, bike trails and other amenities.

3. Alpenbock Loop and Grit Mill Trail Systems
   - Grit Mill Climbing Master Plan Project (2015)
   - Little Cottonwood Canyon Hiking and Climbing Trail Access (Grit Mill - Phase II) (2016)
   - Gate Buttress Recreation Infrastructure Project - Phase I (2017)
   - Gate Buttress Recreation Infrastructure Project - Phase II (2019)
   - Jacob’s Ladder Trail Reroute to Lone Peak Cirque (2020)

   Despite being a historic and premier climbing venue, Little Cottonwood Canyon’s climbing areas lacked infrastructure and were in need of large-scale support. The Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation has supported Salt Lake Climbers Alliance’s incredible work in building strong infrastructure in this area, sustaining its recreational opportunities for future generations.

   This work centered around developing the Alpenbock Loop and Grit Mill trail systems that initially connected climbers to these famous routes ascended by the Alpenbock Club in the 1950s and 1960s.
## 2020 Grant Projects

The Utah Outdoor Recreation Grant (UORG) matches up to $150,000 for new outdoor recreation infrastructure projects. Along with helping communities build recreation amenities, matching requirements allow for regional partnerships.

### 2020 Grant Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Funding</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Primary Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9,000'T Trail Mountain Connector</td>
<td>Mountain Trails Foundation</td>
<td>$28,370</td>
<td>$50,740</td>
<td>Summit</td>
<td>Multi-Use Trail</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bear Lake Pedestrian Pathway</td>
<td>Bear Lake Regional Commission</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$55,856</td>
<td>Rich</td>
<td>Multi-Use Trail</td>
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<td>Bingham Creek Regional Park - Phase I</td>
<td>SL County Parks &amp; Rec.</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$916,243</td>
<td>Salt Lake</td>
<td>Mountain Biking/BMX</td>
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<td>Bonanza Flat Conservation Area - Lockwood / BCC Trail Ext</td>
<td>Utah-Open Lands</td>
<td>$27,178</td>
<td>$54,086</td>
<td>Wasatch</td>
<td>Hiking Trail Running/Nature Walk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonneville Shoal Trail</td>
<td>Traverse Mountains Trail Association</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>Multi-Use Trail</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonneville Shoal Trail Dixie County South Project</td>
<td>Davis County</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>$779,799</td>
<td>Davis</td>
<td>Hiking Trail Running/Nature Walk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brian Head Town Paved Town Trail - Phase II</td>
<td>Brian Head Town</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$458,888</td>
<td>Iron</td>
<td>Hiking Trail Running/Nature Walk</td>
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<td>Cinnabar ATV Trail Redrock, Pahvant and Hobbs</td>
<td>Piute School District</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$174,500</td>
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<td>OHV Recreation</td>
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<td>Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park Staging Area</td>
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<td>OHV Recreation</td>
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<td>Dalton Wells Canoeing Area</td>
<td>Grand County-Wash. Area Travel Council</td>
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<td>$455,000</td>
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<td>Canoeing</td>
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<td>Sanpete Basin Special Recreation District</td>
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<td>$173,281</td>
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<td>Seawatch-Swimming</td>
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<td>City of Ephraim</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>$149,043</td>
<td>Sanpete</td>
<td>Hiking Trail Running/Nature Walk</td>
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<td>Expanding Access &amp; Outdoor Programs in Professor Valley</td>
<td>Canyonlands Field Institute</td>
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<td>$231,396</td>
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<td>Ferron City</td>
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<td>$160,496</td>
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<td>Child-Oriented Nature Play</td>
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<td>Helen Bouldering Structure</td>
<td>Mountianshades Community Fishing Trust</td>
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<td>$36,962</td>
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<td>Climbing Bouldering</td>
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<td>Indian Creek Climbing Conservation Initiative 2020-2022</td>
<td>Access Fund</td>
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<td>$220,000</td>
<td>San Juan</td>
<td>Climbing Bouldering</td>
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<td>Iron Hills Trail System Elevate Extension and Desert</td>
<td>Dixie Mountain Bike Trails Association</td>
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<td>Kane County Water Conservation District</td>
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<td>Climbing Bouldering</td>
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<td>Juniper Jumps Skills Park</td>
<td>Southern Utah University-JC</td>
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<td>Mountain Biking/BMX</td>
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<td>Kona Bluffs Campground</td>
<td>Grand County Econ. Dev.</td>
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<td>Canoeing</td>
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<td>Eagle Mountain City</td>
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<td>Mountain Biking/BMX</td>
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<td>Logan River Trail</td>
<td>City of Logan</td>
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<td>$322,400</td>
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<td>Pohono Min. Bike Trail System - Phase I</td>
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<td>Mountain Biking/BMX</td>
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<td>Park City’s Portion of Bonneville Trail</td>
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<td>$65,000</td>
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<td>Hiking Trail Running/Nature Walk</td>
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<td>Payson Canyon Trailhead</td>
<td>Payson City Recreation</td>
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<td>$310,407</td>
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<td>Power Plant Trailhead Park</td>
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<td>Trail Utah</td>
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<td>Hiking Trail Running/Nature Walk</td>
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<td>River Enhancement - Phase I UPW Mountains/Main St Areas</td>
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<td>Swimming/Diving</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Funding</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Primary Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Farm Mountain Bike Park</td>
<td>Farmington City</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td>Davis</td>
<td>Mountain Biking/BMX</td>
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<td>Tran’s Canyon</td>
<td>Kane County Government</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td>Kane</td>
<td>Mountain Biking/BMX</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weber River Riverfront Recreation and Trail Project - Phase I</td>
<td>TradeFrds. of Northern Utah</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>$775,119</td>
<td>Weber</td>
<td>Paddling</td>
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<td>Westchester Park Boulevard Rebuild</td>
<td>Murray City Corporation</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>Salt Lake</td>
<td>Climbing/Bouldering</td>
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<td>WICo. Confluence Park Paved Bridge-La Verkin to Hurricane</td>
<td>Washington County HCP &amp; Red Cliffs Desert Reserve</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>$506,070</td>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>Hiking Trail Running/Nature Walk</td>
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### Regional Asset Tier Recipients

New for 2020, the Regional Asset Tier category supports new infrastructure projects with a total cost of at least $2 million. Applicants can apply to receive funding up to $500,000. For additional information about UORG funding, please contact UORG at 801-534-3000 or info@utahoutdoor.org.

### Recreation Infrastructure Grant (RIG) Recipients

As variation on public lands continues to increase, budgets have not kept pace. The new RIG grant program addresses this disparity by funding projects to restore high priority trails and repair or replace other types of developed recreation infrastructure. Efforts will aid deferred maintenance and reduce the backlog of infrastructure projects on public lands.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Funding</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Primary Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bear River Outdoor Recreation Alliance</td>
<td>$28,070</td>
<td>$60,343</td>
<td>Summit</td>
<td>Canoeing</td>
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<td>Alpine Creek Loop Restoration</td>
<td>Brian Head Town</td>
<td>$37,000</td>
<td>$175,000</td>
<td>Iron</td>
<td>Trail / Trailhead Infrastructure</td>
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<td>Crystal Lake Trailhead Recreation and Expansion</td>
<td>Sanpete County Government</td>
<td>$115,000</td>
<td>$281,000</td>
<td>Summit</td>
<td>Trail / Trailhead Infrastructure</td>
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<td>Fairview Mountain View Pathway Restoration</td>
<td>Fairview West City</td>
<td>$37,000</td>
<td>$175,000</td>
<td>Weber</td>
<td>Trail / Trailhead Infrastructure</td>
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<td>Floreasca Little Hole National Recreation Trail Restoration</td>
<td>Floreasca Gorge-Creek Favs.</td>
<td>$142,000</td>
<td>$266,455</td>
<td>Daggett</td>
<td>Trail / Trailhead Infrastructure</td>
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<td>Greenway Trail Improvement Project</td>
<td>Pine Tree Trail Committee</td>
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<td>$80,603</td>
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<td>Trail / Trailhead Infrastructure</td>
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<td>Glen Canyon National Rec. Area - Defense House Trail Rehab</td>
<td>Conservation Legacy</td>
<td>$62,750</td>
<td>$195,022</td>
<td>San Juan</td>
<td>Trail / Trailhead Infrastructure</td>
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<td>Jacob's Ladder Trail Reroute to Lone Peak, Circleville, Salt Lake County</td>
<td>Salt Lake Cliffs Alliance</td>
<td>$48,000</td>
<td>$167,132</td>
<td>Salt Lake</td>
<td>Trail / Trailhead Infrastructure</td>
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<td>Jordan River Trail, Trail Restoration Projects</td>
<td>SL County Parks &amp; Rec.</td>
<td>$120,000</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td>Salt Lake</td>
<td>Trail / Trailhead Infrastructure</td>
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<td>Laykanerat &amp; Beaver Creek Trailhead Restoration</td>
<td>American Conversation Experience</td>
<td>$49,000</td>
<td>$171,333</td>
<td>Sevier</td>
<td>Trail / Trailhead Infrastructure</td>
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<td>Logan Canyon River Trail Improvements</td>
<td>Stonest River Nature Center</td>
<td>$12,212</td>
<td>$24,043</td>
<td>Cache</td>
<td>Trail / Trailhead Infrastructure</td>
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<td>Reconstruction of Empire Campground</td>
<td>Kane County</td>
<td>$149,407</td>
<td>$281,388</td>
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<td>Campground</td>
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<td>Red Canyon Bike Trail Restoration Project</td>
<td>Garfield County Econ. Dev.</td>
<td>$92,000</td>
<td>$317,000</td>
<td>Garfield</td>
<td>Trail / Trailhead Infrastructure</td>
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<td>Revising Rock Rift Outdoor Recreation Area at Jordanville</td>
<td>Wasatch Mountain Institute</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$330,000</td>
<td>Wasatch</td>
<td>Trail / Trailhead Infrastructure</td>
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<td>San Rafael Equestrian Campground and Trail Head</td>
<td>San Rafael County</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
<td>$19,460</td>
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<td>Trail / Trailhead Infrastructure</td>
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<td>Salt Lake County High Uintah</td>
<td>Wasatch County-JC</td>
<td>$26,000</td>
<td>$87,348</td>
<td>Emery</td>
<td>Trail / Trailhead Infrastructure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TOTALS

| 50 ORGANIZATIONS | $6,031,396 | $42,963,248 | 20 COUNTIES | 59 PROJECTS |
The Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation supports recreation throughout Utah. From the largest cities to gateway communities and rural counties, supporting recreation provides a vital boost to economies, promotes physical and mental health, and attracts tourism.

**Funding by County 2015-2020**

**Total Completed Projects**

The Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation promotes and enhances recreation across the state, with a focus on developing projects that not only serve local communities but also attract visitors from across the nation and beyond. The department identifies and prioritizes projects based on their potential to improve outdoor recreation opportunities, support local economies, and enhance the quality of life for residents.

**Box Elder**
- Mantua Reservoir Boat Dock Replacement (2019)

**Cache**
- Boulevard Trail Extension Project (2015)
- Bjorn Trail (2016)
- Logan River Trail Renovation Park (2016)
- 300 East Paved Multi-Use Pathway (2018)
- Bridger Bike Park (2018)
- Heritage Park XC Ski Center (2018)

**Carbon**

**Davos**
- Jordan River Boat Takeout (2015)
- Great Salt Lake Nature Center Wayfinding Signs (2017)
- Pioneer Park Adventure Play Area (2017)
- Fruit Heights East Bench Multi-Use Trail (2018)
- Jordan River Trail Extension (2018)

**Duchesne**
- Starvation Reservoir ADA Fishing Pier (2018)

**Emery**
- Joe’s Valley Climbing Sustainability Initiative (2016)
- Welcome Center Climbing Wall (2016)
- Lower San Rafael Road Wayfinding Signs (2017)
- Disk Golf Course (2019)

**Garfield**
- Hole in the Rock Campground (2018)
- Red Canyon Bike Trail Restoration Project (2020)

**Grand**
- Moab Boulder Park (2015)
- Courthouse Rock Campground Corrals (2017)

**Iron**
- Brian Head Town Trail Payson - Phase I (2016)
- Iron Hills Trail System (2018)
- Thunderbird Gardens Disc Golf Course (2018)

**Kane**
- Jackson Flat Reservoir Recreation Facility and Trails (2016)
- Jackson Flat Reservoir Recreation Infrastructure and Trails (2017)
- Kanab City Connector Trail to Jackson Flat (2018)
- Kanab Community Trails Greenhhalgh Trail Construction Project - Phase II (2018)

**Salt Lake**
- Ensign Peak Visitor Trail Reconversion (2015)
- Grit Mill Climbing Master Plan Project (2015)
- Mill Creek Trail, Fitts Park Bridge (2016)
- Little Cottonwood Canyon Hiking & Climbing Trail Access (Grit Mill - Phase II) (2016)
- Sandy Canal Trail - Phases II, III, and IV (2016)
- Gate Buttruss Recreation Infrastructure Project - Phase I (2017)
- Utah & Salt Lake Canwell Trail - Phase III (2018)
- Gate Buttruss Recreation Infrastructure Project - Phase II (2019)

**San Juan**
- Abajo Foottrails Trail System (formerly Monticello Trails Project) (2016)

**Sanpete**
- Arapeen OHV Trail/Lake Hill Upgrades (2015)

**Sevier**
- UM Creek Access Management Project (formerly Paunsaugunt Trail) (2016)
- Fish Lake Kokanee Viewing Walkway (2018)
- Fish Lake Marinas Renovation (2018)

**Summit**
- East Canyon Creek Trailhead Project (2015)
- Utah Olympic Park Trails Project (2015)
- Adaptive Challenge Course (2016)
- Oakley Campground and Corridor Trails Project (2018)

**Todoele**
- SR138 Underpass (2018)

**Utah**
- The Ranches Mountain Bike Park Improvement (2015)
- Highland Glen Bike Track (2015)
- Orem City Bike Skills Trail Park (2017)
- Saratoga Springs Mountain Bike Park (2018)
- Spanish Fork Mountain Bike Trail (2018)
- Provo River Renovation Project (2019)

**Wasatch**
- Bonanza Flat Conservation Area Trail and Trailhead (2018)
- Pine Canyon Bike Park (2018)
- Homestead and Center Street Trails (2018)

**Washington**
- Washington City Cottonwood Wash Trail (2016)
- Comanche Nature Park Interpretive Panels (2018)
- Enterprise Regional Park (2018)
- Pine Valley Recreational Enhancement Project (2018)
- Virgin River North Trail Gap - Fossil Falls to Millcreek Power St (2019)
- La Verkin Creek Crossing (2019)

**Webber**
- BDO Connector Trail (2015)
- Nature Playscape at Ogden Nature Center (2018)
- Ogden Nordic Fat Bike Initiative (2018)
- Wolf Creek Drive Pathway (2018)
Staff and Advisory Committee

Pitt Grewe (Chair)
Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation, Director

Cameron Diehl (Vice Chair)
Utah League of Cities and Towns, Executive Director

Flint Timmins
Office of Tourism, Destination Development Specialist

Matt Blocker
BLM, Recreation and Visitor Services Lead

Betsy Byrne
National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Landscape Architect

Scott Strong
Utah State Parks, Deputy Director

Lincoln Shurtz
Utah Association of Counties, Director of Government Affairs

Tara McKee (Chair)
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Individual Staff Awards

Tara McKee
Individual Service Award – 2019
Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals

Rose Smith
Individual Service Award – 2020
Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals

Additional Support

Alison Garner
Utah Office of the Attorney General, Assistant Attorney General

Tim Haslam
Utah Governor’s Office of Economic Development, Digital Media Specialist (marketing and communications)
“Moab is a city of 5,000 residents serving almost 5 million visitors annually. The Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation grant program has elevated the local community and visitors’ outdoor recreation experiences by helping Moab build the critical infrastructure we wouldn’t otherwise be able to afford. This investment in recreation has been uniquely appreciated during the COVID-19 pandemic, where being outside has provided many opportunities to maintain physical and mental health. And, every dollar spent is a handful of future dollars earned in tourism tax revenue. State investments in outdoor recreation infrastructure and programming make dollars and sense.”

— Emily Niehaus
City of Moab, Mayor

“Utah and Sevier counties are lucky to have the Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation and its staff. Counties like ours have tons of recreational opportunities but lack the funds to enhance them. The OOR staff being outdoor enthusiasts themselves, ‘get it.’ With grants made available through UORG, we’ve been able to make our recreational infrastructure more accessible and provide memorable experiences. Without these programs, our recreational infrastructure would still be years behind where we are today.”

— Chad McWilliams
Sevier County, Tourism & Events Director
For more information, please contact: outdoorteam@utah.gov

Visit business.utah.gov/outdoor to download the grant program guide, view past recipients, see the grant workshop schedule, and discover the many ways recreation in Utah is supported by the Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation.