



Uncompahgre Chapter Year End Report 2016

The Uncompahgre Chapter of COPMOBA had a busy 2016. We began with five trail work days in Cerise Park to build the 0.6 mile Undertaker Trail. Three work days on Cerro Summit worked on both trail maintenance and construction of new trail. In total, there were 124 volunteer hours on the Undertaker Trail and 69 hours on Cerro Summit.

In the fall, new trail construction then moved to the Uncompahgre Plateau. The first of two new singletrack connector trails connecting Lower Spring Creek Trail to Spring Canyon Road was completed in October. The 1.8 mile North Connector singletrack was built by Sweet and Sustainable Singletrack and was funded by a Colorado Parks and Wildlife Non-Motorized Trail Construction Grant. Trail counters have also been installed. The second South Connector trail will be built in spring 2017.

The Uncompahgre Chapter submitted an application for a nonmotorized trail planning grant to the Colorado Parks and Wildlife State Trails Program. The grant application requests \$45,000 to plan 27 miles of new nonmotorized singletrack on the Uncompahgre Plateau west of Montrose. An award decision is expected in Spring 2017.

In the summer of 2016, the BLM Uncompahgre Field Office released their new Resource Management Plan for public comment. The Uncompahgre Chapter Board reviewed the document and submitted comments concerning the need for more nonmotorized singletrack within easy access of the city of Montrose.

The Uncompahgre Chapter also worked with the BLM and the San Juan Shooting Range on Dave Wood Road to reopen a section of the Rusty Buckets trail in the Buzzard Gulch trail system. The trail had been closed due to concerns about ricochet gunfire from the range. The safety issues at the range were addressed by enlarging the dirt backstops and the trail closure signs have been removed.

Finally, the Uncompahgre Chapter had one fundraising event in 2016. The seven day Bicycle Tour of Colorado started and ended in Montrose in June, and we operated a beer tent for the event and raised \$337 with sales of beer and souvenir metal canteens.

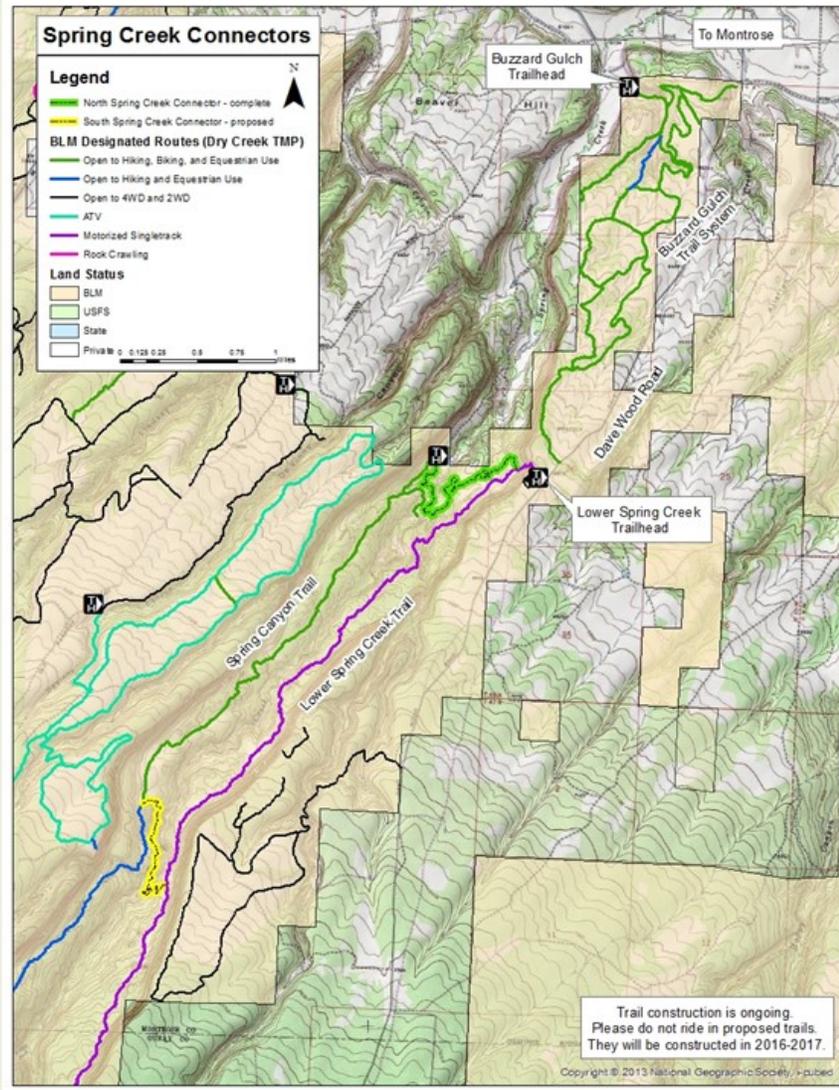
In 2017, we look forward to further trail planning and exploring trail opportunities in the Gunnison Gorge NCA and other BLM lands surrounding Montrose.

Spring Creek Connectors Accomplishments

The Spring Creek Connectors Project will include 3 miles of new trails to create a new loop. The North Connector (1.8 miles) is complete and received a lot of new use this year. Trail counters will be installed to help BLM gather visitor use data.

2017 Work

In 2017, the South Connector Trail will be constructed to finish the loop. Additionally, new fencing will be installed to help keep motorized use off the new non-motorized trails.



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