



MONTELORES COALITION

Request for Proposals (RFP): 2026 Conservation and Recreation Strike Team

Overview

The Montelores Coalition is launching our Strike Team as a pilot implementation effort under the Outdoor Recreation and Conservation Plan.

The Strike Team will accomplish short-term, targeted, on-the-ground project efforts designed to address priority conservation and recreation needs across Montezuma and Dolores Counties. This year, a Southwest Conservation Corps crew will implement the projects over approximately three weeks of total crew time, which may be divided into separate periods as needed.

Initial focus areas include:

- Removal of derelict fencing that impacts wildlife movement and habitat connectivity
- Treatment of priority noxious weed infestations
- Recreation site maintenance

Purpose

The purpose of this RFP is to identify community-supported projects that:

- Align with the Montelores Coalition Outdoor Recreation and Conservation Plan
- Reflect priorities identified in the Action Planning Matrix
- Demonstrate measurable outcomes
- Support our local economy and workforce
- Can be implemented efficiently between August and October 2026

Projects may occur on public lands, private lands with a clear public nexus, or across jurisdictions.

Geographic Scope

Projects must be located within Montezuma or Dolores Counties. The Coalition aims to distribute pilot projects throughout the Regional Partnership area and, where feasible, complete at least one project in each county.

Eligible applicants may include:

- Local governments
- Federal or state land management agencies
- Tribes
- Special districts
- Nonprofit organizations
- Private landowners (with demonstrated public benefit or nexus to public access)
- Collaborative partnerships



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Applicants should be familiar with the Montelores Coalition Charter, Outdoor Recreation and Conservation Plan, and Action Planning Matrix prior to submission.

Project Requirements and Submission Instructions

Proposals will be evaluated using the Montelores Coalition Strike Team Proposal Ranking Matrix. Applicants should review the matrix prior to submission to understand how projects will be scored.

Applicants are encouraged to reference existing community-vetted plans, prior public input, or Roundtable discussions when applicable.

Proposals must include:

1. Project title and location
2. Lead applicant and partner organizations
3. Statement of need and expected impact
4. Alignment with the Outdoor Recreation and Conservation Plan
5. Project description
6. Expected Deliverables
7. Resources and roles, including logistics and communication
8. Timeline between August and October 2026
9. Identified barriers and solutions
10. Estimated budget and in-kind contributions

Timeline

RFP Released: March 26, 2026

Proposal Deadline: May 4, 2026

Project Selection Announcement: June 2026

Implementation Window: August through October 2026

Submit proposals to: [Survey Monkey link](#)*

Questions regarding this RFP may be directed to: cara@montelorescoalition.org

*If you are having trouble with the online application, reach out to Cara Gildar at cara@montelorescoalition.org