

September 27, 2022

Colorado State Forest Service
2667 Copper Ridge Circle, Unit #1
Steamboat Springs, CO 80487

Colorado State Forest Service Grant Committee,

The Routt County Board of County Commissioners is writing in support of Yampa Valley Electric Association (YVEA) regarding an application for funding to partner with the Colorado State Forest Service's (CSFS) Forest Restoration & Wildfire Risk Mitigation Grant Program.

A forest fire could potentially result in millions of dollars in property loss and damage to the area's infrastructure and drinking water supply. With the help of the CSFS, YVEA will continue to mitigate the fire danger risk areas to further reduce the threat of a catastrophic fire and reinforce Routt County's Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). In addition, this partnership has the capabilities of encouraging and motivating individuals and organizations to recognize their obligations to the CWPP, allowing for a cultural shift from wildfire fighting to wildfire prevention.

YVEA has powered the communities of Routt, Moffat, and Carbon Counties for over 80 years. As such, they have a strong, proven, dependable service relationship with these communities. This partnership with CSFS would exemplify YVEA's ability to lead by example, setting the standard for how responsible organizations can protect the community. Routt County strongly supports Yampa Valley Electric Association's application for funding.

Respectfully,

Timothy V. Corrigan
District I

Tim Redmond
District II

M. Elizabeth Melton
District III

