

October 4, 2022

Dear Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative Grant Committee,

The Routt County Board of County Commissioners' would like to express our support for Routt County Conservation District's (RCCD) GLCI grant application. RCCD was originally formed in 1942 with a mission to support agricultural communities within Routt County. Since that time, RCCD has provided assistance to local farmers and ranchers by advocating programs that promote conservation and stewardship, while facilitating community engagement and connecting farmers and ranchers with local and state resources.

Obtaining this funding would allow RCCD to implement a project which would provide grazing technical assistance and climate smart solutions for ranchers in Routt County. With this proposed project, ranchers can explore the benefits of virtual fencing to both increase rangeland health through rotational grazing and improve wildlife habitat. Ranchers not only save money by eschewing from traditional fences, but they can also keep animals away from burned-out and riparian areas while helping to reduce wildfire fuel loads.

Furthermore, this proposal helps Routt County accomplish our mission to efficiently deliver a balance of public services and infrastructure to provide a safe and healthy place to live for present and future generations. As stated in the newly adopted Routt County Master Plan, one of our primary guiding principles is to conserve and preserve our rural, western, and agricultural heritage. By obtaining this funding, RCCD would be able to provide significant assistance to local ranchers while supporting conservation practices in our community.

Thank you for your consideration of Routt County Conservation District in their request for grant funds.

Sincerely,

Timothy V. Corrigan
District I

Tim Redmond
District II

M. Elizabeth Melton
District III

