**Great Old Broads for Wilderness** ~ Women’s Club of Ouray grant application 2022

submitted by Robyn Cascade October 27, 2022 on behalf of the Northern San Juan chapter

1. The organization’s mission reads: *Great Old Broads for Wilderness is a national organization, led by women, that engages and inspires activism to preserve and protect wilderness and wild lands.* We have 40 chapters across the country including our Ouray County-based Northern San Juan Broadband. Our organization encompasses stewardship, education and advocacy related to public lands with a focus on large landscape ecological health and resiliency. Our goals include increasing access to federal and state lands for underserved populations and engaging diverse participation in stewardship projects such as raptor, bighorn sheep and butterfly monitoring, Riverwatch sampling, and trail maintenance. This last initiative is most relevant to this grant application.

2) The WCOC grant would be used to provide supplies for Latino families and individuals to safely participate in 3 outdoor activities at Ridgway State Park and/or in the Uncompahgre Forest during the spring/summer/fall of 2023. Such gear could include water bottles, backpacks, rain jackets, socks, sunhats, sunscreen, insect repellant, etc. depending upon the needs of participants. We will also provide trail snacks (and possibly transportation if required.) We have discussed this initiative with our partner organization Hispanic Affairs Project and with Ridgway State Park where we conduct the raptor and butterfly monitoring. The specific type of outdoor activities we intend to offer will be determined by the interests of the participants. Possibilities include guided nature walks, birdwatching, hiking, water sports, family picnics, etc.

3) Other sources of funding for this project will come from our chapter’s financial resources. In-kind donations will be supplied by our member volunteers, Hispanic Affairs Project (recruiting participants and publicizing these opportunities to their membership) and Ridgway State Park (who, for example, has waived entrance fees in the past for our initiatives with underserved populations.)