

Ouray City Council Special Meeting
Monday, January 10, 2022 6:00 PM

Massard Auditorium -
<https://zoom.us/j/9349389230> password 491878
or dial 408-638-0968
320 6th Ave
Ouray, CO 81427

Agenda

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. CEREMONIAL/INFORMATIONAL
 - a. San Miguel Power Association Totally Green Program - Presentation of Living Trophy
 - b. Friends of the Ouray Via Ferrata 2021 Year-end Report
5. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATION
6. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS/INFORMATION - Tamara Gulde, Peggy Lindsey, John Wood, Josh Smith, and Ethan Funk
7. DEPARTMENT REPORTS
 - a. City Administrator
 - b. Police Chief
 - c. Fire Chief
 - d. Public Works Director
 - e. City Resources Director
8. CONSENT AGENDA
 - a. Liquor License Renewal – BPOE Lodge #492
9. ACTION ITEMS
 - a. Resolution 1, Series 2022 - Designating the Official Posting Place
 - b. Consideration of request from Friends of the Ouray Via Ferrata for the City's 2020 and 2021 User Fees (\$15,350.00) to be Used for Maintenance of the Routes and Partially Fund the 2022 Ranger Program
 - c. Council Assignments to Boards and Committees
10. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - a. Council Meeting Days and Times
 - b. OEDIT Office Postponed Due to COVID: Discussion of future of Community Workshop – Thursday, January 13 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm (Future Lodging Occupation Tax, Tourism Funds Discussion)
 - c. Masking Requirements on Municipal Property
 - d. Ouray Municipal Code, 7-5 Zoning Regulations, Subsection J, 6 - Owner Occupied Requirement Discussion
11. EXECUTIVE SESSION
 - a. For a conference with the City attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b) and for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators, under C.R.S. 24-

6-402(4)(e), regarding necessary short term licenses, code enforcement actions, remedies and penalties.

12. ADJOURNMENT



**Friends Of The Ouray Via Ferrata
2021 End Of Season Report
11/4/2021**

Written by:

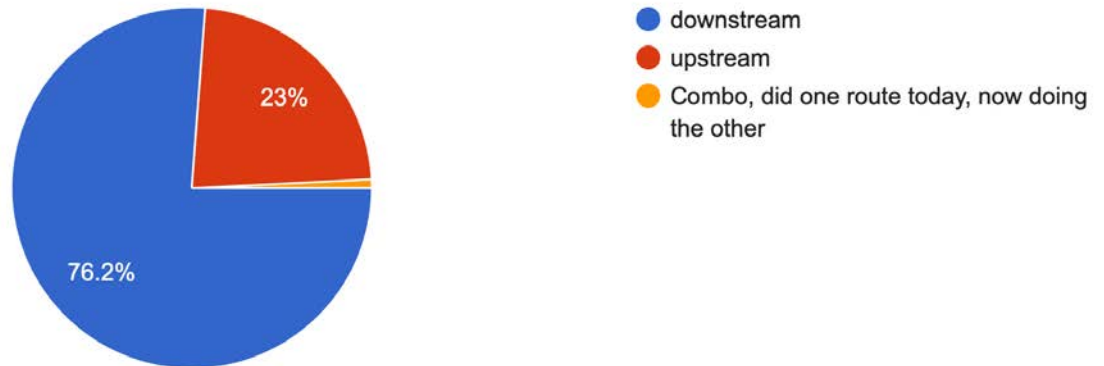
Dawn Glanc, Head Ranger at the Ouray Via Ferrata
vialferrataranger@gmail.com

Background On The Data

The information in this report is based on the data collected daily by the Ranger on duty. The Ranger records the daily usage both on a paper registration form and an online Google form. Basic data is collected on each climber from 8:00am - 4:00 pm every day of operations. A total of 3863 responses were used to complete this report. The responses combine the Upstream and Downstream route use. Climbers are counted once for each route climbed. For example, if a climber climbs Upstream and Downstream they are counted twice, one time for each route. Since the Upstream route was available for only half of the 2021 season, only a small percentage of climbers attempted both routes on the same day. However, this number is expected to increase during the 2022 season and beyond. The data collected each year will help the FOVF Board, The City of Ouray and the OVF Rangers to make future management plans.

Upstream or Downstream route?

2,815 responses



Operational Overview

The Ouray Via Ferrata opened on May 1, 2021, 23 days earlier than the 2020 opening date. The Downstream route was open all year. The SkyClimb addition on the Downstream route opened in mid May. On July 3 the Upstream Route opened to the early exit bridge. On October 28 the Upstream Route opened completely.

The OVF was open from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm from May 1 - October 31, with some closures due to weather and Penstock repair work.

The OVF was closed due to inclement weather on:

- May 3
- May 21
- September 29
- October 12
- October 14
- October 26

Due to inclement weather the night before, the OVF opened late on:

- October 13, opened at 11:00 am
- October 15, opened at 12:00 pm
- October 27, opened at 10:00 am

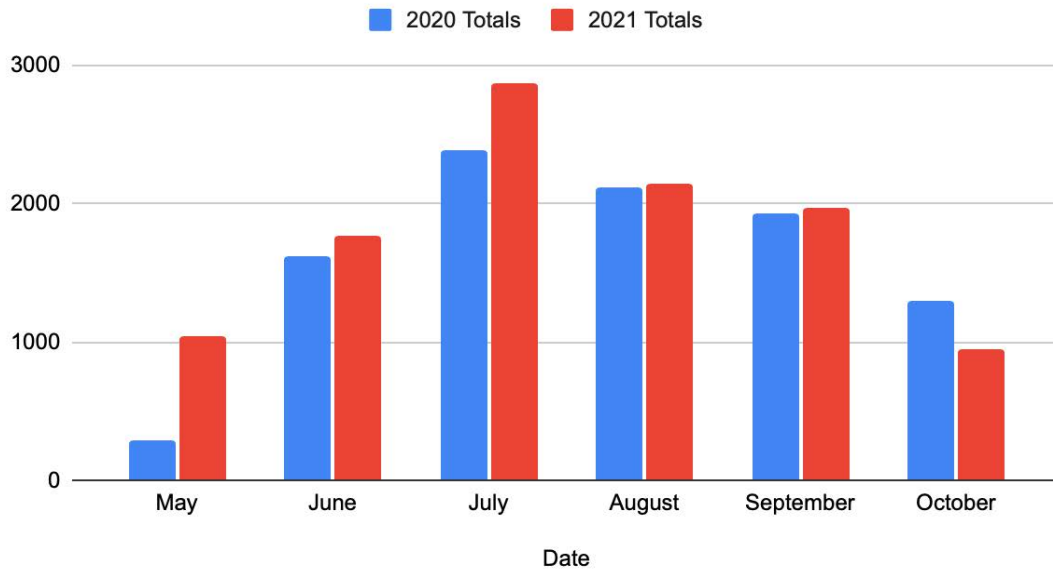
The OVF was closed due to Penstock Repair on:

- May 19, 12:00pm - 4:00pm
- June 26, 12:00pm - 1:00pm due to Penstock burst
- September 3, 8:00am - 12:00pm

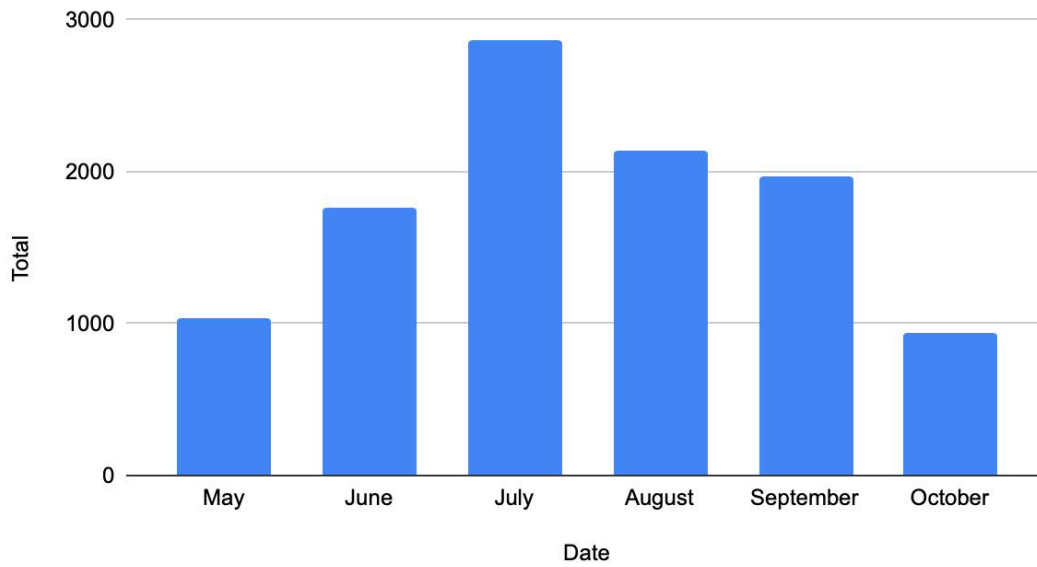
Total Number Of Climbers And Guides

The Ouray Via Ferrata had a total of 10,722 climbers from May 1 - October 31, 2021. From May 23 - November 1, 2020 the OVF had a total of 9,633 climbers. The 2021 OVF season started 23 days earlier than the 2020 season. The Upstream Route opened in July 2021.

2020 Totals and 2021 Totals



2021 - Number of climbers per month



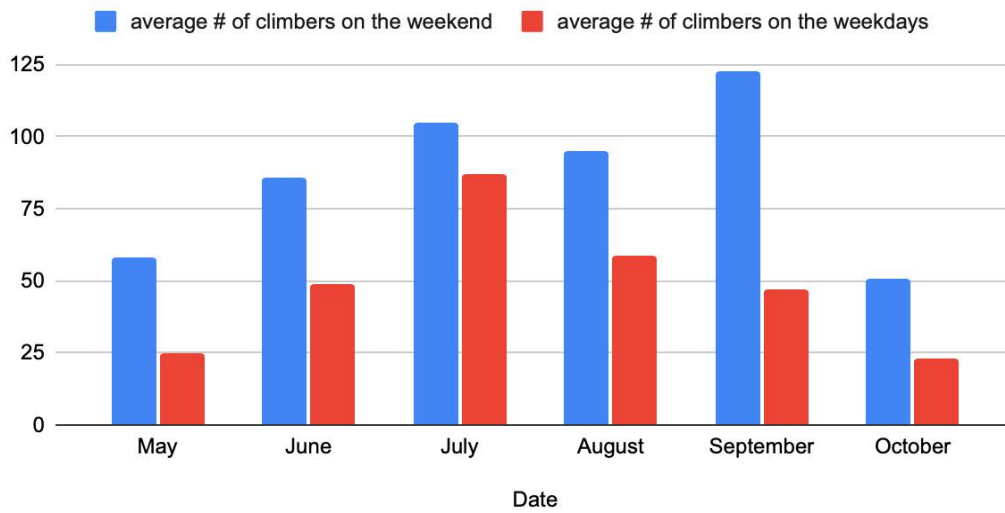
The daily number of climbers increased from May through July with July having the busiest weekday and weekend averages. To help manage the crowds and the traffic flow, two rangers were on duty each weekend from May - September.

The three major summer holiday weekends were the busiest weekends of the season.

- Memorial Day weekend was the first busy weekend with more than 100 people each day. The OVF saw 118 climbers on Saturday, May 29 and 110 on Sunday, May 30. Monday, May 31st was the holiday and the OVF had 53 climbers.
- July 4th weekend was somewhat slow in that the turnout on July 4 was not what was anticipated. The OVF saw 167 climbers on July 3, 60 climbers on July 4 and 122 climbers on July 5.
- Labor Day weekend was the busiest on record for 2021. The OVF saw 207 climbers on Saturday, September 4 and 176 climbers on Sunday, September 5. September 6th was the holiday and the OVF had 90 climbers.

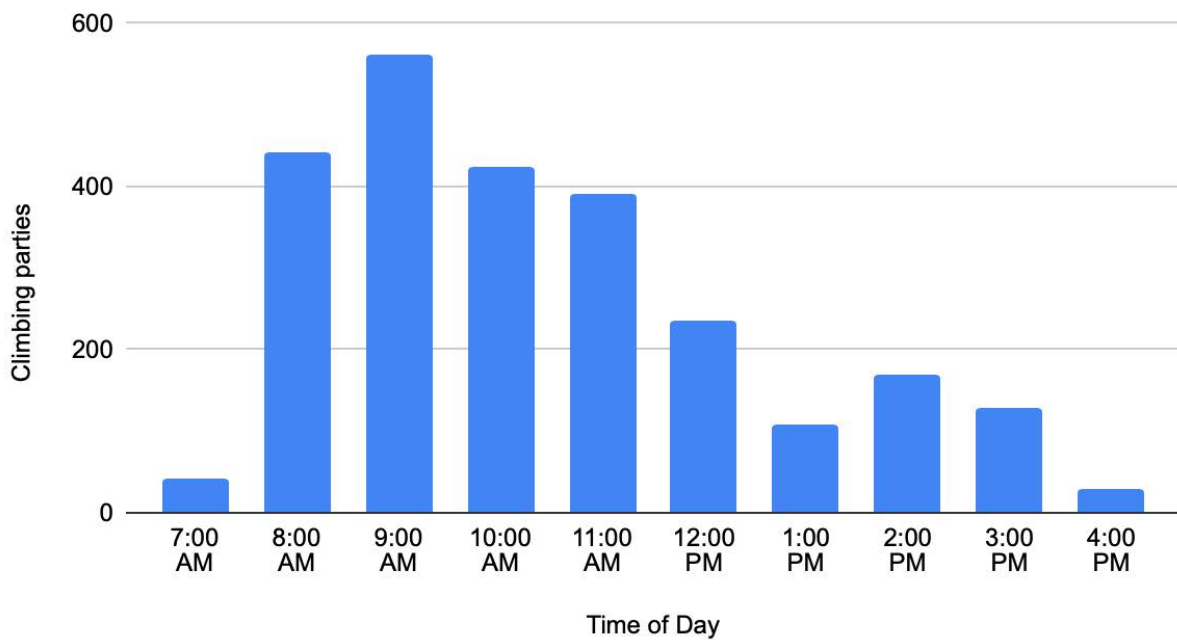
Date	average # of climbers on the weekend	average # of climbers on the weekdays
May	58	25
June	86	49
July	105	87
August	95	59
September	123	47
October	51	23

Average number of climbers on the weekend and average number of climbers on the weekdays



The following chart shows the time of day and the number of climbing parties per hour.

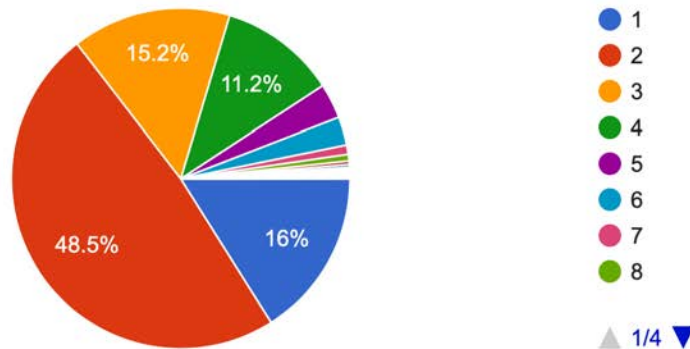
Climbing parties vs. Time of Day



This chart shows the number of climbers in each party. Large group sizes are more common on the weekends. Consideration should be given to implementing a registration system for non-commercial groups which would assist in the management of large groups and prevent unauthorized access.

Number of climbers

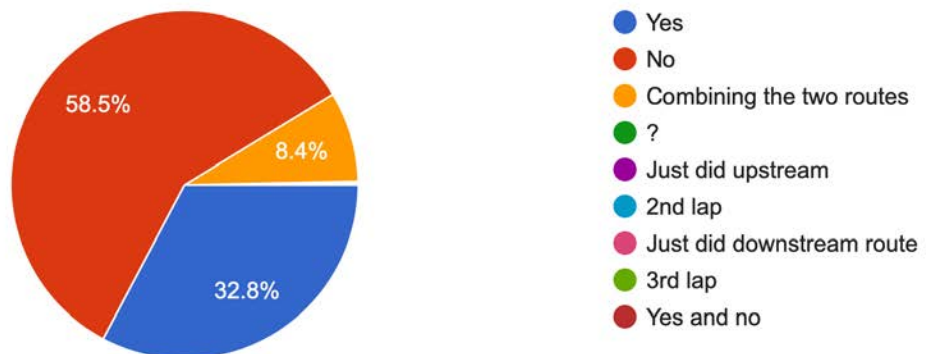
3,862 responses



The Ouray Via Ferrata has experienced growth in its loyal community of climbers. There are many people who come on a regular basis to enjoy the resource. This chart shows the number of people who have climbed the route before.

Have they done the OVF before?

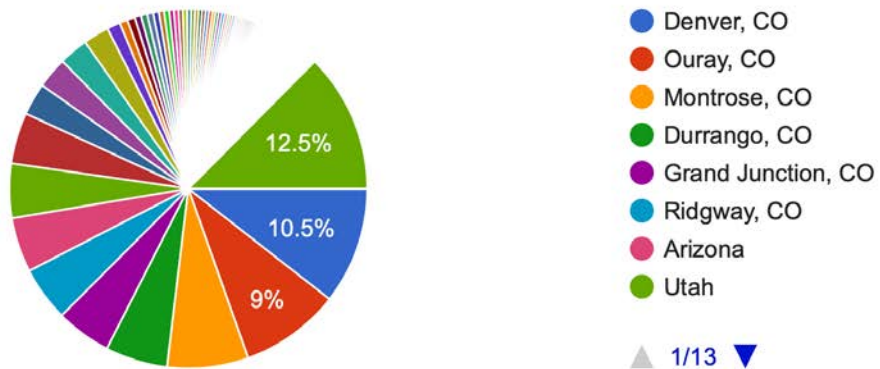
3,841 responses



This chart shows where OVF climbers originate from. The Colorado west slope corridor from Grand Junction to Durango accounts for a big bulk of the climbers. Denver, Utah and Arizona are also locations where climbers travel from.

Address (city/state)

3,862 responses



This chart shows how the climbers hear about the OVF. A new answer trending this year was YouTube. Word of Mouth is the number one way climbers hear about the OVF. A big thank you to all the Ouray County locals who help to promote this amazing city resource.

How did you hear about the Ouray Via Ferrata?

2,892 responses



Economic Impact of the Ouray Via Ferrata

Summary

In 2016 The Friends of the Ouray Via Ferrata submitted an economic impact study to the Ouray City Council. The study was prepared independently by Andrew Klotz in March 2016. The Longwoods International Colorado Specific Tourism Study was used to figure tourist expenditures. The study used the Telluride Via Ferrata as a comparison. At the time of the study the United States Forest Service Estimated that 6,000 people a year climbed the Telluride Via Ferrata.

The analysis considers the potential economic benefits to the citizens of Ouray following the development of a Via Ferrata. This report makes very conservative forecasts about the number of “new” visitors that the Via Ferrata will attract over time, however, the forecasted numbers and expenditures are substantial. It was the belief of the FOVF that a high quality Via Ferrata route in Ouray represented a significant opportunity to dramatically increase spring, summer and fall tourism in the County. The FOVF expected that this increase would manifest both in the form of new destination tourists, as well as additional overnight “capture” of existing tourists who will have good reason to stay another night to enjoy the unique and novel challenge of this emergent outdoor recreation trend.

The entire FOVF Economic Impact Study can be found in Appendix B of this report. Pages 9-11 of the study break down the economic impact of visitors. This study suggests that the Ouray Via Ferrata has surpassed the four year projections. In year one of operation the OVF had 9633 climbers. In year two of operations, the OVF had 10,722 climbers. This means the Ouray Via Ferrata has added 3411 new lodging nights, \$10,232 in new LOT tax and \$116,597 in new Sales tax. Please reference Appendix B for more information.

Guide Use Report

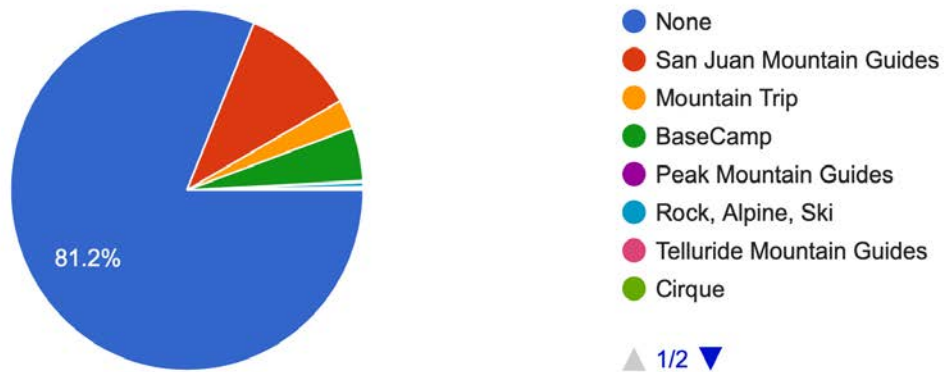
Summary

The Ouray Via Ferrata saw a total of 2084 guided climbers from May 1 - October 31, 2021.

2021 OVF Guide Service Use

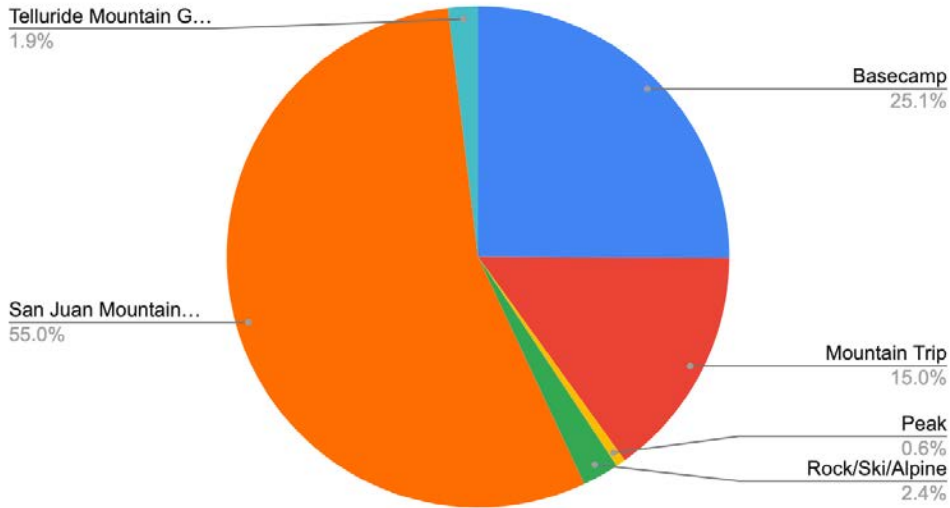
This pie chart compares the number of recreational climbers, represented as none, to the number of guided climbers. Guided groups made up only 18.8% of the total OVF usage which is below the recommended FOVF management plan goal of 20%.

Guide service
3,855 responses

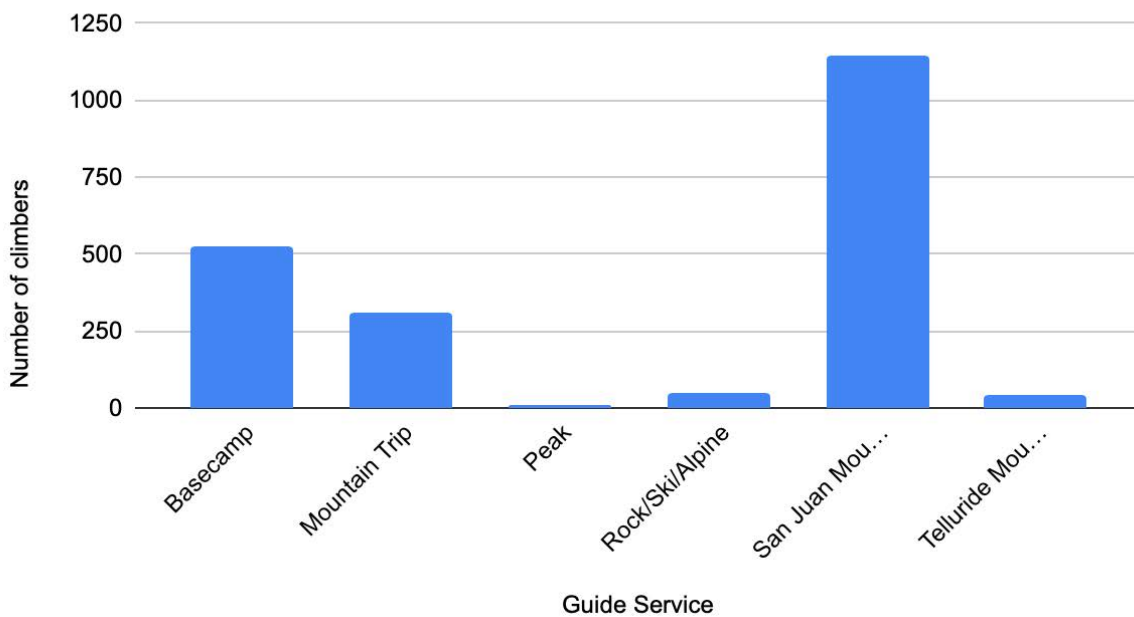


The next two charts show the number of individual guests that each guide service guided on the OVF. This includes both the upstream and the downstream route.

Total Number of Guided Clients

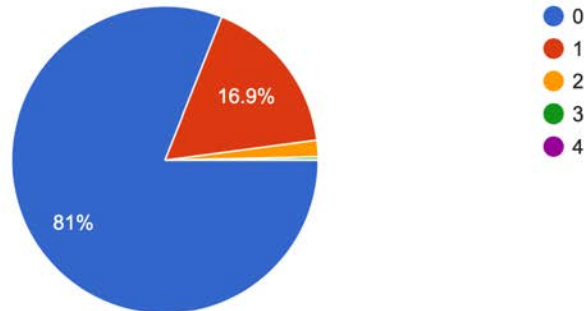


Number of climbers vs. Guide Service



This pie chart represents how many guides are operating per guided group. The OVF is mostly recreational or non guided parties. The OVF is mostly guided with one guide per group. The current guide to client ratio is 4:1. This includes both the upstream and the downstream route.

Number of Guides
3,862 responses



The following chart shows the amount of money that is to be paid by each guide service for the commercial operations on the OVF. All use fees are due to the OVF by November 15, 2021. As per the commercial operation agreement the minimum amount of money due to FOVF is \$150.

Guide Service	Number of climbers	x \$10 per climber	Amount Due to FOVF
Basecamp	523		\$5,230.00
Mountain Trip	312		\$3,120.00
Peak	13		\$150.00
Rock/Ski/Alpine	49		\$490.00
San Juan Mountain Guides	1147		\$11,470.00
Telluride Mountain Guides	40		\$400.00
Totals	2084 Guided Climbers		\$20,860.00 Due to the FOVF

OVF Rangers

Ranger Staff

The Ouray Via Ferrata employed 6 rangers for the 2021 season.

The OVF ranger staff included:

Dawn Glanc, Head Ranger

Chris Hinkson

Josh Bailey

Allesandra Kauffman

Tyler Bergh

Jacob Rabb

The rangers worked 8 hour shifts from 8:00am - 4:00pm. From May - September two rangers were on duty on the weekends. Having two rangers helped to manage the traffic flow at the OVF entrance and on the routes. When the Upstream route opened, the two rangers managed both entrances. Two employees on shift allowed for one ranger to patrol the OVF, offer traffic control and climber assistance.

The OVF ranger staff had a preseason training session. The first day was spent in the field and on the OVF downstream route with IFMGA Guide Clint Cook. Clint reviewed basic hauling systems, efficient raises and technical lowers with the rangers. The rangers practiced the skills on the ground and on the OVF. Day two of the training was spent reviewing the ranger employee manual, emergency plans, employee forms, ranger data forms and reviewing daily procedures.

Incident Reports

There were no incidents of misconduct toward the Rangers during the 2021 season.

The OVF had four non-emergency incidents.

- June 27, the OVF practice course was vandalized and graffiti appeared around the OVF entrance area and perimeter trail.

- July 25 the OVF practice course was vandalized and stickers were placed on the OVF entrance Kiosk. In both incidents the ranger on duty contacted the FOVF board and the Ouray Police Department.

- August 5th a report was made to the ranger that someone was seen defecating on the OVF downstream route. A Ranger patrolled the area after the report was made. No feces was found.

- June 30, A father and son were climbing the OVF Downstream route and came upon two people having sex on the OVF. The father and son came back to the shack to tell Ranger Josh the story. The father and son did not want to make a formal complaint.

The OVF rangers had 5 climber assists this season. No major injuries were reported. On two separate occasions a guide from Basecamp helped assist a climber to exit on the nearest early exit.

- June 19, Ranger assist of climber near the Sky Climb/Sky Bridge intersection

- July 9, Guides from from Basecamp Ouray helped assisted a climber out the early exit

- September 6, Ranger assist for scared climber on Upstream Route

- September 6, Ranger assist for a tired climber on the Sky Climb.

- September 23, Guides from from Basecamp Ouray helped assisted a climber out the early exit

- September 24, Ranger assisted a San Juan Mountain Guide with a client exit from the Upstream route. Client was unable to climb the route.

All assists were completed in under an hour, demonstrating just how essential guides are to the OVF

*Please see Appendix A for the complete monthly ranger reports

Communication With The Public And Internal Communication

The 2021 OVF season began with a direct line of communication between the head ranger and Chris Holland, the OVF Designer. This allowed the rangers to communicate any issues or maintenance needs on the route. The head ranger would text or call Chris Holland directly. The Head Ranger was also able to text or call Clint Cook, the OVF installation manager. The direct line of communication led to route improvements above the Stairway to Heaven and at the Sky climb / Sky Ladder intersection. A step was

replaced on the downstream route, turnbuckles tighten on a bridge and a ladder rung was tightened on the Helix Ladder. All repairs and requested maintenance were completed within 48 hours of the ranger request.

The feedback from 2020 indicated that the rangers needed a better communication system with guide services and the public. In 2021 the Head Ranger, Dawn Glanc, created a gmail account, Google My Business Account, email address, and she gained access to the Instagram and Facebook accounts. To increase communication between the FOVF Board, the OVF Rangers, Ouray Mountain Sports, and the Guides Services direct emails were sent out regarding closures and/or conditions reports. Social media was also used to alert the above mentioned stakeholders and the public. Visit Ouray, Ouray Colorado, and Ouray Chamber were all tagged in the social media posts.

The following are areas where communication can be improved by the rangers in 2022:

1. Adding signage on both the downstream and upstream routes with a phone number so climbers and guides can contact the ranger on duty.
2. Create a direct line of communication with Dispatch, Law Enforcement and Ouray Mountain Rescue so all can reach the Ranger on duty.
3. Create a line of communication between the OVF and the City Administration
4. Create a line of communication between Rigging For Rescue to alert rangers of RFR courses in the gorge.

Ranger Partnerships

San Juan Mountain Guide Lanyard Rental Program

The OVF teamed up with SJMG to provide rental lanyards at the Ranger Shack. This program was very successful. There were no incidents of misconduct toward the rangers. Having the rentals available at the shack prevented any issues arising when a climber showed up with inappropriate gear. The agreed lanyard rental price was \$30 - \$25 to SJMG and \$5 to FOVF. Each transaction was called into SJMG and processed by phone on the day of the rental. The system worked great. A total of 68 Lanyards were rented by the OVF Rangers.

The Ouray Parks and Recreation Committee

The OVF Rangers partnered with The Ouray Parks and Recreation Committee to host an end of the season party. A costume contest was held from 8:00am-2:00pm. Prizes were awarded to the best individual and the best group costumes. The FOVF donated 3 OVF hats and 3 OVF Buffs as prizes.

Brock Adams, from the Parks and Recreation Committee, teamed up with the Head Ranger and served refreshments (hot dogs, halloween cookies and fresh banana bread) at the end of the downstream route from 12:00-2:00pm.

Craig Hinkson

For the second year in a row, Craig donated a truck load of gravel to the Ouray Via Ferrata. The gravel was used to cover the area around the downstream entrance kiosk, the trail to the Upstream Route and on the entrance trail. The gravel is a great addition to help make the trails look more manicured.

OVF Improvements Made by the Rangers

- Helped a FOVF Board Member create a FOVF Venmo account
- Started a Lanyard rental program in partnership with San Juan Mountain Guides
- Created an Operating Plan/Ranger Manual
- Created an Emergency/Incident Plan
- Conducted two days of Ranger training
- Created a Local Business Partner Membership program
- Created an Individual membership program
- Constructed trail to entrance of the upstream bridge
- Rock removal and gravel at the entrance Kiosk and around the gate of the downstream route.
- Rock wall improvements around ranger shack area
- Trail improvement from perimeter trail to penstock includes rock wall construction, vegetation removal, widening and leveling trail, bench, gravel laid on entire trail surface
- Built shelves in ranger shack
- Secured bench in front of the ranger shack, screwed board in place

- Swept ledges and removed rocks on the downstream route
- Removed refuge from around the shack, including old PVC pipes and a wood pallet
- Removed graffiti from rock face
- Improved trail from practice course exit to the perimeter trail including vegetation removal, defining trail and lining trail with rock walls.
- Constructed cairns from the top of the early exits to the ice park loop trail.

OVF suggestions

In addition to the communication improvements identified above, the rangers would like to help facilitate the following improvements in the 2022 OVF season:

- Add signage and improve exit area of upstream route
- Improve the beach area of the upstream route.
- Replace wood on benches
- Improve trail to and from practice course. Add signage to the practice course.
- Build bathroom
- Get a heater for the shack
- Add rocks to walls that line trail from penstock to shack
- Install signage for early exit trails that direct climbers back to CR361
- Protect the little tree near the end of Mars wall. The tree has had 20,000 people walk on it and the tree is no longer stable
- Add an earlier passing zone on the upstream route, possibly in the first walking section.
- Get a Megaphone to contact climbers across the canyon



Appendix A

2021 Ranger Reports

*Names of climbers have been redacted for privacy.

May 2021 Ranger Report

May 1-11

Submitted by Dawn Glanc

General Report

Opening day was quiet. Saturday 42 climbers came through the OVF. Most of which were locals with prior experience. Two rangers were on duty. It was nice to work with Allesandra, the new staff member, to continue training. Over the weekend the hands-on experience together was very valuable for training.

When we opened on Saturday morning we realized we had many little projects to get the rangers ready for the season. Having two rangers on duty allowed for one of us to staff the entrance and the other to run errands and complete projects. Over the weekend we finished projects and gathered supplies like pens, photo copies, spare keys, lock boxes and binders. We hung the ropes to mark the cliff edge, removed the closed signs, swept out the ranger shack, picked up trash along the perimeter trail, and removed the lock from the exit gate. Allesandra also constructed a trail at the top of the practice wall to keep climbers from trampling the wildflowers.

Allesandra climbed the route and performed a sweep at the end of each day to check on the climbers. Both Saturday and Sunday the weather turned to intermittent rain showers in the afternoon. The sweep on Sunday helped a fatigued climber. Allesandra demonstrated the resting clip and the climber was able to move along more efficiently without incident.

The benefits of having two rangers will be key to our success this year. Not only can the rangers manage the entrance, we can also manage the route better. Trail improvement and other projects can also get done. Plus it is much nicer to leave the ranger post each day. Getting away from the noise of the river and moving around is a real morale booster. Sitting at the shack for eight hours can be brutal.

Since opening weekend it has been quiet. As the weather improves and tourism increases, we expect to be very busy. The climbers have been mostly locals. People are very hesitant to give email addresses when registering at the entrance.

The Skyclimb and the new early exit are great additions to the OVF.

The OVF Closed on May 3 for weather. The forecast was for rain and snow with a 100% chance of precipitation. The route was closed all day. I emailed the guide services and Ouray Mountain Sports with the info. I also posted the info to Facebook and Instagram.

Another Route Closure will occur on Tuesday May 18th from 8:00am-12:00pm. The penstock repair work will require a helicopter concrete pour. No one can be on the OVF during the closure. A ranger will still need to be on duty to enforce the closure. I emailed the guide services and Ouray Mountain Sports with the info. I also posted the info to Facebook and Instagram.

Guide services have started their preseason training. I am trying to help coordinate this process. Mountain Trip came through on Tuesday May 11. I gave them a ranger orientation for about an hour. I plan to do this briefing/orientation with all the guide services so that everyone knows the rules and emergency protocols. San Juan Mountain Guides and Basecamp both have training scheduled on May 24th. Basecamp will plan to arrive in the afternoon to limit route congestion. I reached out to Peak and to Dan Z. to see if they plan to do any training.

Ranger Tasks for May

- 1.5 days of Ranger training. One day in the field with Clint Cook, and a half day with me at the ski shop. Day one we covered assisting climbers, day two was an administrative day.
- Built a trail to exit the practice course. The trail will help protect the columbine flowers as well.
- Installed a lock box for the Ranger Shack. Lock Box code is [REDACTED]
- Built cairns at the top of the new early exit to help direct climbers to the trail
- Ranger Briefing with Mountain Trip at their guide training/orientation
- Made the Ranger schedule on Humanity
- Started the payroll paperwork process with the new employees
- Met with Chris Holland to discuss the gate and trail for the new upstream route
- Moved a pile of wood to begin the proposed trail for the new upstream route
- Began making posts on Social Media (Facebook and Instagram)
- Emailed the guide services and Ouray Mountain Sports with the May 3 and May 19 closure info. I also posted the info to Facebook and Instagram.

A few issues to address

- We need to place a sign by the Kid's Wall parking lot to direct climbers to the OVF/perimeter trail. Along with this, we need to put a "Closed" sign on the Ice Park entrance.
- Is it feasible/practical for the OVF Rangers to have radios? This will create some logistical problems, i.e. how/where do you charge them?
- Website needs some updates to the route beta. Please add info about the new skyclimb, the early exits and the access trail info,

- Interior work in the shack.
 - Install ceiling hooks to store the rescue cache.
 - Install a countertop or table on the wall
 - Install a high shelf

Ranger Report

May 12- June 30

Submitted by Dawn Glanc, FOVF head ranger

Summary

The month of May the OVF saw a steady increase in climbers. 1035 climbers visited the OVF in May. (966 climbers and 69 guides). Memorial Day weekend we saw our first weekend with more than 100 people each day. The average number of climbers on the weekend in May was 58, weekday averages were 25 climbers.

The month of June 1763 climbers visited the OVF. (1623 climbers and 140 guides)The average number of climbers on the weekend in June was 86, weekday averages were 49 climbers.

I completed a draft of the membership and LBP programs. I emailed the links to Mark and Nate for review. Here is a link to each document

[Membership](#)

Ranger Incident Reports

May 13

Ranger on Duty

Josh Bailey

Rigging for Rescue held a class on May 13th. A liter was hanging off the side of the cliff above the bench. No warning or heads up was given to the ranger. Can I reach out to RFR to see if I can get them to send a text or email to alert us of their use? This way the rangers can warn and inform the OVF climbers of the overhead hazards.

May 16th

Ranger on Duty

Josh Bailey and Dawn Glanc

We had our first rental on Sunday. It was nice not to turn them around for a 1 hour round trip to town. The transaction with the customer was mostly smooth. I forgot to get his CVV code. Josh was able to get the number when the guys returned the lanyards. I called the SJMG guide office and we ran the transaction. I think we have now worked out the problems and should have a smooth rental process moving forward.

Josh built shelves and a workstation in the shack. I brought up a barstool from the shop. The shack is really starting to feel like it is coming together.



Photo: New shelves and workstation in the ranger shack. Two barstools were also purchased.

May 17th

Ranger on duty

Dawn Glanc

Chris Holland came to the shack for a visit. He updated me on the Penstock project. The helicopter work is posted due to weather. The closure has been moved to May 20th from 8:00am - 12:00pm. I emailed the guide services, Ouray Mountain Sports and I posted the information on social media.

Chris and I also discussed the entrance gate to the new route. Now that the wood pile has moved Chris is thinking of a different location for the new entrance gate and trail. The rangers will work to rough in what Chris has suggested. When the final decision is made on the gate location the rangers will finish the new trail.

May 18

The OVF was closed from 8:00am-12:00pm for the penstock repair project helicopter work. A ranger was on duty during the closure to stop climbers from accessing the route. The route opened at 12:00 pm as planned. Social media posts about the closure and the reopening were made to Instagram and Facebook. Alerts of the closure and the opening were sent via email to the guide services and Ouray Mountain Sports.

May 21

The OVF was closed due to weather. Social media posts about the closure were made to Instagram and Facebook. Alerts of the closure and the opening were sent via email to the guide services and the Ouray Mountain Sports.

May 29-31

Memorial Day Weekend

Reported by Dawn Glanc

The holiday was our first busy weekend. We saw 118 people on Saturday and 110 on Sunday. The traffic flow was steady all day. I scheduled three rangers each day with the anticipation of a very crazy weekend. Mark came up to the shack and we discussed that financially three rangers did not make sense. I agreed. However we did close the OVF two days in May and the third ranger only worked 5 hours each day. I think when the total May ranger hours shake out the third ranger will not impact our projected hours.

With multiple rangers on duty, we have been stationing rangers on the route. Typically the ranger sits at the bench and checks in with climbers. The ranger also does traffic control at the bench. This has been good to help people pass and others to stop and ask questions. Over Memorial Day weekend we also stationed a ranger at the base of the sky ladder/sky climb intersection. The ranger helped control traffic and stop people

from climbing one rung away from each other on the sky climb. We all agree the ranger at the bench is a better station to be at.

The rangers started the trail down to the start of the new upstream route. Together we moved a big boulder and started moving other rocks in to define the trail. I would like to schedule a service day at the end of June to move gravel and improve a trail.

June 2

Dawn Glanc

Tammy from the forest service stopped by to discuss via ferrata management. I gave her some details about the operations of the OVF. I offered to meet with other forest service rangers to discuss the OVF management plan.

June 5

Dawn Glanc

Josh Bailey

Josh finished putting up the shelving in the shack. Josh secured the window from break ins. He also strung a few ropes to hang rental gear from. We now have shelves and spaces for rangers to leave their personal rescue kits at the shack.



Photo: Upper shelf and "rope shelf"

June 5

10:00am

Josh Bailey and Dawn Glanc

We had an adult and an underage child with inadequate rope skills. I had the Dad demonstrate how he would belay. He was able to demonstrate the Munter hitch off of an anchor. However, once on the route he could not manage his ropes. One of the rangers, Jacob Rabb, was guiding and intervened with the Dad at the top of the stairway. The Dad belayed the stairway properly. The second on duty ranger, Josh, went around and stationed himself at the bench to be sure the father daughter duo belayed properly. Josh interacted with Dad and reminded him how to belay the upcoming M climbs. The Dad then demonstrated proper belay techniques to Josh.

June 5

10:50 am

Dawn Glanc

Tamara from Telluride Mountain Guides came by with two clients. I was not aware that TMG was permitted to work at the OVF.

June 9

Dawn Glanc

This morning I stopped a climber from trying to access the new Via Ferrata route. He was confused as to where the OVF started and he was trying to clip himself to the supply lines. I stopped him and have since installed a closed sign on the new entrance platform.

June 12

Dawn Glanc and Tyler Bergh

Chad Peele from San Juan Mountain Guides had 5 clients in tow today. I thought the ratio was 4:1 max. Can we get clarification on this?

Ryan from Telluride Mountain Guides came through with two clients. I thought TMG did not have their permit renewed.

Philleep Wheatlock showed up to guide a group for Basecamp. I am not sure that he is on the roster.

June 19

Dawn Glanc and Tyler Bergh

Patient reportedly called [REDACTED] at 2:00pm in distress on the OVF. [REDACTED] eventually called the SJMG office and the office called the ranger shack at 3:00 to report an overdue climber. Tyler Bergh was stationed on the route and had just exited when I called him. Tyler and I then searched the route by walking along the ice park side. We searched the route twice and did not find the patient. Tyler checked the bail out trails and did not find her. Tyler also did a sweep of the parking lot and found the patient's vehicle. I then called the sheriff to alert him of the situation. Tyler left at 4:00 to go to his other job. I searched the route a third time and contacted all the climbers on the route by yelling across and having the climbers call me. No one had seen the patient. A female witness was climbing down the new sky climb and happened to see the patient off route in a gully behind some bushes. It is unclear how the patient got to the gully location. The female witness unclipped from the OVF route and scrambled to the patient. Patient was found in a seated balled up position. Patient was crying, disoriented and dehydrated. The patient admitted to the female witness that she came to jump off the route. The female witness and her male partner helped the patient back to the OVF route and clipped her in. The witnesses assisted the patient along the route. From the upper bridge I spotted the two witnesses and the patient. I entered the route at the exit and reached the patient at 4:30pm. I called Nate Disser for help. The witnesses and I helped the patient to the area just below the CR 361 bridge. Nate set up a haul system and hauled the patient to the viewing stand below the

bridge. EMS took control of the patient. Patient was taken to Montrose Memorial hospital under protective custody.

June 26

Dawn Glanc and Allesandra Kaufmann

Katie Berrenger called me at 12:00 to let me know the penstock burst. The temporary section failed. Initially, the water was hitting the route and the sky ladder. I shut the route down and started to evacuate the OVF. The route was shut down for 1 hour. The penstock crew shut the water off and Chris Holland gave the all clear at 1:00pm. We reopened the route at 1:00 pm.



Photo: Penstock break. Witnesses said that the water from the initial break hit the bottom of the Sky Ladder.

June 27

Dawn Glanc and Jacob Rabb

At 8:00 am I noticed spray paint vandalism on the penstock, OIPI bathroom, OVF port a potty, entrance trail tree stump, entrance area tree and on the new OVF route closed sign. Xander Bianchi from Basecamp alerted me to the loose nuts and missing bolt at the practice course. After further inspection of the practice course I confirmed Xander's report of one nut loosened

with only a few threads left on the nut. The final bolt of the practice course had the nut, washer and cable removed. Jacob Rabb made a sweep of the route at 8:15. He started from the exit and went backwards to look for loose bolts, damaged cables or spray paint markings. Jacob did not find any signs of vandalism. I made a police report when Jacob returned to the ranger shack.

The following photos show the vandalism to the area.

Photos 1 - 5 show the spray paint around the Perimeter Trail and the OVF entrance.



NOTICE
THIS AREA HAS BEEN
IMPROVED BY INSTALLING
NEW OR REPLACE THE EXISTING ARCHES.
BE IN THE ARCHES.
PLEASE USE DESIGNATED ARCHES.
DURAY
ICE PARK

DURAY ICE PARK
OUT HOUSE
CLOSED FOR
THE SEASON

LOCK











Photo: Damaged bolt on the practice course.



Photo: Damage to the practice course. The cable and washer were found on the ground.

June 30

Josh Bailey - written up by Dawn Glanc

A father and son were climbing the OVF and came upon two people having sex on the OVF. The father and son came back to the shack to tell Josh the story. Josh did not take down a formal complaint.

Ranger Report

July 1 - August 2

Written by Dawn Glanc

Summary

The 2021 OVF season is half way through. It has been a busy month despite all the monsoonal moisture. Fridays and Sundays have become the busiest days. Saturday has been slow compared to last year. In 2020, from May 23 - July 25, the OVF saw 3543 climbers. In 2021, from May 1 - July 31, the OVF saw 5665 climbers. The 2021 OVF season has been 23 longer than the 2020 season, but it is clear visitation is up. July 2021 the OVF had 2,867 climbers. (2627 climbers and 240 guides) The average number of climbers on the weekend in July were 105, weekday averages were 87 climbers.

The ranger staff is doing well. The shack is a morale booster. The starting area is far more manageable with the shelter. Having two rangers on the weekend has proven to be a wise decision, especially with the opening of the new route. The second ranger can check climbers in and help get climbers access the new route.

The Upstream OVF Route has been open for a month now. Climbers have given great reviews of the course. We have collected 926 Google forms since the new route opened July 3. 22% of the users since July 3 have done the upstream route or a combo of the upstream/downstream routes. The upstream route has helped to alleviate traffic jams by giving experienced users another climbing option.

Ranger Incident Reports

July 1-2

Dawn Glanc

The rangers finished the trail for the new upstream OVF. Together we constructed stairs, hauled in buckets of fill dirt and gravel. The trail looks great.

July 3

Dawn Glanc

The new OVF upstream route opened today. Approximately 10 parties climbed the route on opening day. July 3 was the busiest day yet with 167 climbers. We had three rangers on staff and it worked out great to manage both routes and the crowds.

July 4

Dawn Glanc, Alexandra Kaufmann and Tyler Bergh

The 4th was very slow. The attendance on the actual holiday was not what we had anticipated. On July 3 we had 167 climbers. On July 4th we had 60 climbers. Monday July 5th we had 122 climbers. On July 4th the rangers staggered the start of their shifts to limit hours. We had two

rangers on duty during the typical busy hours anticipating a rush that never happened. Only one ranger was on duty after 2:00pm.

July 9

Josh Bailey was the ranger on duty.

* The following incident was never reported to the ranger.

Ranger Josh did report helping the climber to adjust his harness prior to entering the route.

Ranger Josh also warned the man that anyone over 265lbs was too big for the lanyard system.

The man stated he was not over the weight limit.

Responding guides: Jason Doyle and Owen Juell

Climber was wearing personal equipment.

The incident reports for the guides are below.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Owen Juell <owenjuell115@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Jul 12, 2021, 11:17 PM

Subject: Incident report, should I send to Dawn too right now?

To: Basecamp Ouray <info@basecampouray.com>

Hi Dawn,

Here is the incident report. I think Jason is going to send you an email too.

It was July 9th and Jason Doyle and I had a group of 5 we were taking on the downstream Via. We moved pretty quickly until the bench area, and then the 3 climbs section. When we were approaching the second tower, I noticed there was a pretty large guy in front of us. As we were entering the ramp before climb 2, I was in the back and Jason was in the front. He had his back turned to the guy and was talking to the group and I was looking away, and Jason heard the big guy slip and fall, and when we looked up, the guy was hanging horizontally (slightly upside down), from the first horizontal cable section on the traverse. Jason got up there first and started supporting his head so he wouldn't tip. When I got there, he got above the guy and pulled him upright, while I pushed. When we got him up and standing on the ledge, we noticed his lanyard was mostly deployed, and his harness was wrapped around his upper thigh, not his waist. We pulled his harness up and tightened it. After he caught his breath we helped him through the traverse. Jason in front doing his crab claws, and me helping him stay on from behind. For the last move, Jason luckily clipped him in direct, and the guy fell a second time but didn't go anywhere. Jason grabbed both sides of the guy and held him on the wall, then hopped behind him with me, and we helped him through the last move. This all happened at about 11am.

Jason then helped the guy to the trail portion right below, while I got our group through the climb and traverse. We decided that Jason would belay the guy out of the second bail out point, and I would take our group further along the Via because they were all doing really well.

He belayed the guy up the third climb and out of the bailout as I took our group up the climb and then through the next portion. He got the guy to the top and made sure he was okay, knew where he was going and had a fully charged cell phone in case he needed help, before coming back to join our group. Jason caught back up with us at the final passing zone before the skyclimb. We took the skyclimb and then exited the via at 12:30pm.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jason Doyle <jasondoyle922@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Jul 12, 2021, 10:49 PM
Subject: Ouray Via Ferrata Incident Report
To: Basecamp Ouray <info@basecampouray.com>

Ouray Via Ferrata Incident Report - Friday July 9, 2021

At around 12pm, fellow Basecamp guide Owen and myself, were approaching the halfway bench. We were guiding a group of 5 and there was another Basecamp group of 8 ahead of us, guided by Charlie and Philippe.

We ran into a gentleman named JR near the bench. He was doing the Via Ferrata solo, using his own equipment. He ended up letting Charlie and Philippe's group pass him, but then continued after them, placing himself in between the two Basecamp groups.

On the first vertical and traverse after the bench, he was moving pretty slow. Since Philippe was in the back of his group, I noticed he was calling out a lot of beta to JR to make sure he knew where certain rungs were as he was climbing. I thought it was nice of Philippe to do that since we both had groups to tend to, but seeing that also made me more cautious to pay more attention to JR as he was in front of us.

JR successfully navigated the first climb and traverse. Then he started the 2nd vertical section. I was in front of my group, so I was noticing how slow JR was climbing, and since that is a much more vertical climb, I gave JR plenty of time to reach the top before I started with my group. Owen was near the back of our group.

As I saw JR start the traverse, I then climbed the vertical section quickly to get above my group and snap some photos, as I always do in that section. I was almost to the top when I stopped to look back at my group below to make sure they were moving onto the section properly.

That's when I heard a yell and heard JR slip, about 5 feet above me and slightly climbers left. Both his feet slipped off the thin ledge and he was caught by his harness. I immediately rushed to the top to check on JR. He was conscious, no injuries were apparent, he was breathing fine

just rapidly, just frankly looked scared out of his mind as he laid horizontal hanging in his harness.

The main concern was that due to his weight and shape, the harness had slid down to his upper thighs. JR was about a 270lb+ male. So my main concern was that if he turned completely inverted that he would literally slip out of his harness and fall to the river, ultimately causing serious injury or death.

My initial thought was to get a rope on him to secure him as I had noticed he partially deployed his lanyards screamer pack. But I quickly decided to forgo the rope because he was slowly slipping out of his harness. I got directly over him and told him we needed to get him standing back up. But due to his physical state, he couldn't sit up and his weight was too great for me to move in the position I was in.

So I asked him to grab my hands and I slid him slightly towards a rung that he could put a hand on, still while he was horizontal. I then told him to hang on to the rung with everything he had while I maneuvered myself directly over him so I actually had leverage to help him get back on the ledge in a standing position. During this whole conversation I had placed my foot under his neck area to make sure he didn't roll or move in his harness.

I then quickly climbed above him, and as soon as I got into a better position to help him, my co-guide Owen had seen the incident and climbed up to assist the rescue. It was instrumental to have him there as he was able to push JR up from behind as I grabbed his hands to stand him back onto the ledge. We both finally got JR standing which was a HUGE relief. The harness slipping was scary.

We then proceeded to try and calm JR down. He was very quiet, easy to understand why and figuring he was experiencing a minor amount of shock. We then fixed his harness, pulled it up above his hips, and Owen pulled it tight again from his side. We spent around 10 minutes calming JR down and explaining what had to happen next. Where the exits were and what needed to happen to get him off the ledge. JR never lost consciousness, he was just wanting to get off the ledge.

So with Owen directly behind him, and me in front, we began to traverse with JR to get him off the ledge, moving forward on the Via Ferrata. I clipped his harness and Owen and I told him exactly where to put his feet and hands. When we neared the end of the traverse, we noticed JR was getting a little shaky, so I placed his direct carabiner onto a rung. Happy I did that because about 3 seconds later JR lost his footing again and slipped.

The fall was small, but for a big guy it was still an issue. I then reached around both sides of JR and basically used my entire body to get his feet back up on the ledge. Then finally, after about 20 minutes since the initial fall, JR was onto the next flat piece of trail. He had to rest a while, but then I continued to proceed with him.

Fully knowing JR wasn't capable of caring for himself, I coached and belayed him up the 3rd vertical and then belayed him all the way up the exit. I also had to give him water from my camelbak several times because he was out.

Once we reached the top of the exit pitch. I walked him about halfway down the exit trail to point out exactly where to go. By this time he was speaking, competent, and seemed to be coming back to normal. I asked him if he had any injuries or if he needed me to bring him all the way out. He said he was fine. I confirmed he had a charged cell phone in case he needed more help he could call someone he knew in town or 911.

At this time I left him to continue to come back to my group that had continued their trip with Owen. He asked my name and which guiding service Owen and I worked for before I left him on the exit trail.

July 19

Dawn Glanc

At 12:40 pm I received a call from Nate Disser that a woman was stuck on the sky climb. A man name [REDACTED], a friend of the climber, had called 911 to get help for his friend. The Sheriff had contacted Nate. Nate then called me. I called the sheriff to let them know a ranger was on the way to help the stuck climber. I verbally contacted the stuck climber by yelling across from the ice park side. The climber had no injuries or mechanism for injury, she was just tired. I made a plan to meet the climber on the sky climb and attempt to climb the rest of the downstream route to exit. I talked to the sheriff and Ruth Stewart from OMRT before heading on the Via. I let them know my plan and let them know Nate was my point of contact.

I entered the climb via the early exit. I reached the stuck climber by climbing up the sky climb. When I Reached the 67 year old female she was uninjured and tired. There was no fall or mechanism for injury. According to the climber "She pumped out and could go no further". I lowered her on a rope to the base of the sky climb. We then climbed out of the downstream route together without assistance.

July 20

Dawn Glanc

A climber just shared this photo with me. The climber's wife is the social worker in this case. This teen is thought to be heading to Ouray and has mentioned the OVF. If you see this teen please contact law enforcement.

MISSING

Have you seen Robert?



Male, 5'9, 140 lbs, Hazel Eyes, Curly Brownish Blonde Hair,
Possibly wearing red shoes, a tie dye hoodie and carrying a
black backpack. Sweet, Kind and Loving.

**Robert we love you and just
want to know you are okay!**

facebook.com/FindRobertFrazier/

**IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION,
PLEASE CONTACT:**

303-956-7651

July 24

Dawn Glanc and Josh Bailey

I have been noticing a problem area on the via where the sky climb and sky bridge come back together. Dan Zokitas has also raised the same issues that I am seeing.

- The sky climb needs better signage to warn climbers of the difficulty level and to inform them to stay 1 person per cable section.

- The end of the sky climb needs a "Do Not Enter, One Way" sign. Although it seems straight forward, recreational Climbers get confused as to where the route goes at the bridge-climb junction.

- The top of the sky bridge, where the sky climb ends, needs a passing zone cable for those waiting for friends. This area is getting crowded and more than three people are often clipped into a single cable after the bridge-climb intersection. Waiting parties, with multiple climbers, are often seated or standing above the cable. As passing parties play through they pull on the cable to move around the corner. Pulling on the cable typically interferes with the waiting/resting climbers seated above the cable. It seems we are just setting ourselves up for a situation for a passing climber, to floss the waiting climbers off their stance.



Photo: One climber is descending the sky climb, one person waiting after the sky bridge and two active climbers moving on the route, and pulling on the cable. This waiting climber was directly above the climber moments before this photo was taken.



Photo: This party of climbers had more than one person per cable on most of the sky climb. Signage is needed to be clear about spacing.

July 24

Dawn Glanc and Josh Bailey

Josh Swept off the top outs of both stairway to heaven sections. He is trying to mitigate the loose rock and trundle bigger rocks. Josh also swept the ledge at the top of the sky bridge. The goal at the top of the sky bridge area is to sweep off the loose dirt and expose more bedrock. Hopefully by removing some of the loose dirt in this section climbers will have more secure footing as parties pass through.

July 24

Dawn Glanc

I went to the end of the route this morning to field questions and talk with climbers who were finishing the route. One woman suggested a hotdog stand at the end of the route. Another person asked about a food truck at the end of the route. Perhaps a concession is in order for the 2022 season?

July 25

Dawn Glanc and Jacob Rabb

Patrick Lehan from SJMG came to report a bolt failure on the OVF practice course. Patrick had a group of 14 climbers and 3 guides that started at the practice course. The last climber through the course had the second bolt on the route fail. The nut had come off the bolt. No injuries occurred. I went to inspect the course and verified the damage to the bolt. I reported the incident to Mark and Nate. Nate came up and inspected the practice course and noticed stickers on the OVF entrance kiosk. Nate took pictures and filed a police report. I called Marcus from Mountain Trip. Marcus started the OVF at 7:30am. I asked him to keep his eyes open for any problems or abnormalities on the route. He agreed and found nothing upon his inspection.

July 26

Dawn Glanc

Clint Cook came to install a passing zone at the top of the Sky ladder. Hopefully this new passing zone will help alleviate the congestion problems that are occurring. Clint amended the route signage for the sky climb. The entrance sign to the sky climb warns of the route difficulty. The sign at the end of the sky climb warns not to enter. Clint also repaired the practice course since the vandalism on July 25. The timeliness of the fixes and the improvements are appreciated.

Ranger Report

August 1- 31

Written by Dawn Glanc

Summary

The month of August was steadily busy. Weekend averaged 110 climbers per day, and week days averaged 59 climbers per day. The upstream route adds a noticeable increase in traffic to the afternoon. In August the OVF had 2004 recreational climbers and 140 guides, for a total of 2144 climbers. During the first four months of 2020 operations the OVF experienced 5819 climbers. During the first four months of 2021 operations the OVF experienced 7784 climbers. The average number of climbers on the weekend in August were 95, weekday averages were 59 climbers.

The rangers have been working on the entrance trail from the kiosk to the penstock. Some vegetation has been removed to widen the trail. Rocks have been used to create a trail border and gravel has been laid down. The goal is to complete the trail connecting to the Perimeter Trail by October.

Other improvements and trail work have been accomplished. The exit trail for the practice course has been improved. A temporary bench has been installed at the practice course as well. The bench is to keep people from sitting on the penstock. The downstream entrance area was improved by removing all the large rocks, leveling the area and laying down gravel.

The ranger staff will move to one person per shift for the remainder of the season.

We have a mouse problem in the shack. The mouse has been eating our ropes. Can we please get some sort of animal proof bag or bear canister to store our first aid supplies, the rental lanyards and our rescue kit?

Ranger Incident Reports

8/5

Josh Bailey

While working on the OIPI side of the canyon, Pete Davis from the Ouray Ice Park saw someone defecate on the via across from the new ice park stairs. The guy used a stick to bury or move it. I went on patrol to be sure there were no Feces on the route. I could not find any feces.

8/7

Josh Bailey

I saw a group spotting, rather than belaying, a kid under 85lb out of the top of the sky ladder bridge. Then I saw another parent, also with an under 85lb child, spotting rather than belaying the down climb just past the second early exit. I also remember us telling them about all the roped belay spots on the route.

8/7**Dawn Glanc**

I started to line the entrance trail with rocks. The plan is to line the trail and remove vegetation so that the entrance trail is a nice wide path.

8/8**Jacob Rabb**

Completed two projects today. Moved old PVC pipe outside of ranger shack. Walked the 5 sections of PVC pipe to the powder house.

Climbed the OVF and picked up trash. Rappelled down to pick up list items.

8/11-12**Josh Bailey**

Worked on the entrance trail from Kiosk to penstock bridge. Lined one edge with large rocks

8/13**Dawn Glanc**

I sent an email to Rigging for Rescue asking them to please give the rangers a heads up when they plan to operate in the Uncompahgre Gorge above the OVF. Here is a copy of the email:

Fri, Aug 13,
1:58 PM

Via Ferrata Ranger
<viaferrataramer@gmail.com>

to Rigging

Hello. I hope your summer is going well. The Ouray Via Ferrata Rangers would like to make a request to your organization. Can you please contact the ranger staff via email when you are planning to host a RFR course in the Uncompahgre River Gorge? This email notification will help our rangers be aware of your course so that we can warn any OVF climber who may be below you. The RFR courses often draw the attention of perimeter trail users as well. If the rangers know that RFR is using the area we can better answer questions from curious and concerned onlookers. We appreciate you working together with us. There are many user groups in the gorge and the rangers would like to help coordinate if we can.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Dawn Glanc

Head Ranger

Friends of the Ouray Via Ferrata

Ouray, Co 81427

(360)510-7271

8/14

Dawn Glanc and Josh Bailey

Spent the day digging up all the rocks near the entrance gate that were causing people to trip. We moved 1 rock that was as big as a microwave. Josh moved in some gravel to help fill in holes and level the ground.

8/15

Dawn Glanc and Tyler Bergh

Continued digging rocks out of the entrance gate area. Tyler brought in gravel to help fill the holes and level the ground.

Dawn moved rocks and dug up vegetation to widen the entrance trail. The path from the entrance kiosk to the penstock bridge is starting to take shape.

8/20

Jacob Rabb

Worked on the trail coming out of the practice course mostly, moving rocks. Turned away a group of 3 with dyneema slings, they got rentals. SJ sent out 4 rentals right before 4 and then another group showed up - just now leaving the shack.

8/21

Josh Bailey

Went to the hardware store and bought supplies to remove the graffiti from the first vandalism incident this summer. The graffiti that was removed was on a rock face near the entrance kiosk.

8/25-30

Dawn Glanc

Rangers have been improving the entrance trail each day they work. Progress is being made and the project looks great so far.

Ranger Report

September 1-30, 2021

Written by Dawn Glanc

Summary

The month of September has been busy. The Labor Day weekend was the busiest weekend of 2021. Having two Rangers on duty over the holiday was the key to our success. The two rangers kept the traffic moving. After Labor Day the rangers cut back to one ranger per shift on the weekends. However, crowds averaged over 100 climbers each weekend. Due to the number of climbers, two rangers should have been scheduled on the weekends through September.

Year to date the OVF has seen 9780 climbers. In September 1971 climbers used the OVF; 1862 recreational climbers and 109 guides. In September weekdays averaged 47 climbers per day. On the weekends the OVF averaged 123 climbers per day.

The OVF was closed on September 29 due to weather.

A closing day Halloween party is being planned for October 31st. Details will be sent out soon.

Ranger Reports and Incidents

September 3

The OVF was closed from 8:00am - 12:00pm due to the helicopter work for the penstock. Josh Bailey was on duty to keep people off of the OVF. The penstock work was completed at 11:45am. The OVF opened at noon and returned to normal operating hours.

September 4 - 5

Dawn Glanc

The holiday weekend was the busiest day on record for 2021. Saturday there were 207 climbers, Sunday 176 climbers. The rangers were very grateful to have two people on duty. Despite the busy weekend, there were no incidents to report

September 6

Dawn Glanc

11:30am

A family of 3 started the upstream route. One female was unable to complete the initial traverse. She was scared and did not have the skills to climb the route. Her husband coached her to the start of the helix ladder. I intercepted the family at the base of the helix ladder. I lowered the female to the downstream route, then rappelled down to her. The two remaining family members finished on the upstream route. The female and I climbed the wrong way on the downstream route to exit the course. The female had no injuries.

September 6

Dawn Glanc

2:00 pm

I received a call from Ruth Stewart, paramedic and captain of Ouray Mountain Rescue. A 911 call was received at 2:00pm reporting a stuck climber on the OVF. Ruth called to alert me. The Ouray County Sheriff, Ouray ambulance and Ouray Police Department arrived on scene. Ruth had just finished climbing the OVF herself so she responded immediately. Ruth walked along the top of the ice park and helped locate the man. Together Ruth and I descended the 2nd bail point to reach the stuck climber. The male had fallen on the horizontal section of the second tower on the M climbs. The climber had no injuries, he was just freaked out and exhausted. I gave the climber half a liter of water. Ruth and I assisted the climber out the early exit. I belayed the man as Ruth climbed near him and coached him. Once at the top of the bail point we walked back to the Climbers Memorial. No injuries were reported.

September 10

Dawn Glanc

3:45pm

A male and his girlfriend came to climb the downstream OVF at 3:45pm. He and his girlfriend had the right equipment and they received our safety brief. The male climber told me "I have BASE jumped off the Telluride Via a bunch". His girlfriend let me know they were at the OVF to celebrate his birthday. The male climber then told me he was here to BASE jump the OVF. I advised against jumping. I watched them climb down the first few cables and they demonstrated competence.

The couple had crossed the 3 wire bridge and started traversing the Mars wall. The male climber unclipped from the OVF and tried to climb up to the upstream route. He climbed about half way between the two routes. Other climbers on the route yelled at him and he turned around when the climbing became too difficult. I also yelled over to

him and he down-climbed back to the downstream route and clipped back in. After the incident his girlfriend made sure he used both tether arms to clip in.

Because I saw the guy display such irresponsible behavior I took his intent to BASE jumping the OVF to be a real possibility. I texted Nate and Mark to alert them. Luckily no further drama was reported that day.

September 11

Josh Bailey

I heard a lot of commotion, screams, etc., coming from the downstream route just below the Via Ranger shack. I immediately went down to the start of the upstream route to investigate. I saw someone in the river down to the left, about 10-15ft below the Via before the passing zone, at a vertical bare cliff section. I'm not sure if he fell or climbed down to the water somewhere along the route. It looked like he had just picked himself up, somewhat flustered, with mud on his back and arm. I yelled to check on him. He just gave a thumbs up and asked if he should climb back up to the Via. One of his friends pointed him downstream. I said "No wait, I will bring a rope." He gave a thumbs up and took a seat on the southwest side of the river. By the time I got my gear on and got down to the cable bridge he had already climbed back up to the Via and gave me another thumbs up. Then took off down the route with his friends to the stairway to heaven. I went back to the shack and got another thumbs up wave from him on the stairway to heaven climb.

September 16

Chris Hinkson

Picked up trash around the port potty, dog bags and water bottles.

September 19

Josh Bailey

This information was emailed to viaferrataranger@gmail.com. Email was then forwarded to Chris Holland, Clint Cook, Nate Disser and Mark Luppenlatz.

Original email:

Hey there is a ladder rung out of place on the upstream route 2nd rung from the bottom. I yanked on it and couldn't jiggle it...



Update:

The rung was repaired on 9/20 at 10:45am

September 22**Chris Hinkson**

I had a guy climb the VF today and he wanted to let the Board and installers know he was impressed with everything. He liked all the hardware that was put in.

The guy is a climber and he works in this field.

September 23**Dawn Glanc**

Today I removed a few rocks at the base of the downstream entrance gate. I removed the rocks and leveled the ground so climbers could clip in before stepping over the big rock, and descending. This small flat space provides a place to clip in and gain security without making any climbing moves. Rangers will encourage climbers to clip in while standing on the flat surface.



September 23

Dawn Glanc

I was on duty but was never alerted to the following situation:

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jason Doyle <jasondoyle922@gmail.com>

Date: Fri, Sep 24, 2021, 10:40 AM

Subject: 9/23 OVF incident report

To: Basecamp Ouray <info@basecampouray.com>

On September 23, 2021 at around 11am, I (Jason, Basecamp guide) was on the main downstream OVF with 2 Basecamp clients.

As we approached the 3 climbs after the bench, we noticed a lady in a group of 3 was struggling on the 2nd climb, the steepest one. She had been hanging in the middle of the climb on her direct carabiner when another group of 3 caught them. We were just observing from a ways away. There didn't appear to be an immediate emergency, just a lady struggling to get to the top. The group that caught them was guided, I believe by a mountain trip guide, but again, it was far away so kind of hard to tell.

The guide that caught them helped the lady with a rope to get over the 2nd climb and off it. At that point, I didn't see them anymore until we got to the 2nd climb ourselves. When we got to the top of the 2nd climb, I looked and noticed the lady was hanging again on the 3rd climb. So I asked my party to hang out right after the 2nd climb so I could go see what was happening with her.

The original guide that helped her was no longer there, he obviously continued on with his group. So I got to the lady, she was probably about mid 50's, and she was struggling badly. Her name was [REDACTED]. She looked in complete exhaustion and stated she was nauseous, barely bobbing her head up and down. But she was completely responsive, just with a faint voice. She was with her son and another gentleman about her same age, his name was [REDACTED] (I forget the son's name, he was mid 30s). They were on the phone calling for help when I got there, then they called off the help because I said I have a rope to help get her off the vertical section.

So I put her on belay and with both the guys help, one below her and one above, we were able to get her off the climb, albeit slowly. She could only climb about 1 rung at a time before she needed rest, so the belay was essential to allow her to rest and not lose progress or fall back down.

After we got her off the vertical, I continued to belay her up the 2nd exit to the trail. She had to rest a lot, but continued to push. We eventually got her to the top after about 30-40 minutes. Once she got to the top she started to speak more coherently and thanked me for the help. The 2 guys had it in control from there. I pointed the exit trail out and directed them how to get back to the parking lot before I returned to the Via to continue guiding my party. When I left them I felt strongly she was returning to form, she admitted the whole Via was just much harder than she thought.

September 24

Dawn Glanc

At 11am Steven Vansickle called me to report that he had a climber, [REDACTED], on the upstream route that needed to exit due to a knee injury. The client "twisted their knee and it gave way, aggravating an existing injury". Steven reversed a few cable sections and returned his client to the top of the helix ladder. I closed the downstream route and stopped the upstream Route traffic as well. Two recreational climbers waited on the downstream route just before the helix ladder.

I then got my gear on and climbed the downstream route to the start of the Mars wall. Steven lowered his client from the top of the helix ladder to the start of the Mars wall. I met the client at the base of the Mars wall. Tommy and I climbed back to the ranger shack by reversing the downstream route. Tommy climbed out on his own power with no rope assist. [REDACTED] and I filled out paperwork at the shack. Steven reversed the upstream route to help one of the remaining clients exit the route. Steven and the remaining two clients finished the upstream climb. [REDACTED] and the client that returned walked back to their car. [REDACTED] needed no further assistance.

Total route closure time was 30 minutes.

September 24

Dawn Glanc

On September 24 I met with Brock Adams from the Ouray Parks and Recreation Committee. We wanted to work together to promote a Halloween/closing day celebration at the OVF.

The plan is to hold a Halloween costume contest and serve hot dogs (from 12-2) at the end of the downstream route on October 31. I volunteered to be the costume contest judge. The Parks committee will help serve hotdogs and promote the event.

To make the event possible a few tasks will need to be completed. Myself and the parks committee will take care of most things. I have a few tasks listed for the FOVF board.

Head Ranger:

- Create flyer
- Post event to social media
- Get a prize for costume contest winners, one prize for best individual and one prize for best group costumes.
- Create contact information sheets for costume contestants
- Contact winners and distribute prizes
- Hand out candy at start of OVF routes

FOVF Board:

- Donate hot dogs, buns and condiments
- Donate two prizes for costume contest

Parks and Rec committee:

- Distribute flyers
- Help promote the event
- Serve hotdogs from 12-2pm

This is a very loose task list to help give a blueprint to the Halloween/closing day party. Hopefully the event will draw a good crowd on closing day. Next year I would like to work with the parks and rec committee to host a larger fundraising event. Please let me know if you have any comments, questions or concerns.

September 29

Jacob Rabb

Closed the OVF after consulting with Nate Disser. Closed all day due to weather.

September 30

Chris Hinkson

A decorative piece came off of the entrance kiosk. The piece is now in the shack.

Ranger Report
October 1-31, 2021
Submitted by Dawn Glanc

Summary

October was the slowest month of the season. The OVF had 942 total climbers in October, 893 climbers and 49 guides. The daily averages were down compared to previous months. The weekday average was 23 climbers a day and the weekend average was 51 climbers a day. In the month of October the OVF saw a significant decrease in guiding as well. A total of 10,722 climbers climbed the OVF in 2021. The OVF was closed on October 12, 14 and 26. Due to the snowfall the previous day the OVF had late starts on October 13, 15, and 27th. This allowed time for the sun to come around and melt the snow and ice that had formed on the route. The new upstream route was completed and opened to the public on October 28th. Closing day was celebrated with a costume contest, halloween candy, and apres-climbing refreshments. The OVF closed for the season at 4:00pm on October 31st.

Ranger Reports and Incidents

October 7

Chris Hinkson

I heard a gunshot in the canyon. Went and investigated, I am guessing that Rigging for Rescue (think that is who that was) shot rope across the canyon. They are practicing rescue.

It would have been nice to know they were coming, so I could tell VF visitors what's up.

October 8

Dawn Glanc

I heard a gunshot in the canyon. Upon investigation I found RFR practicing above the via Ferrata. They were performing litter rescues above the first tower of the M climbs. It would be great if RFR could give us a heads up when they will be operating above the OVF. The RFR group can present a hazard to climbers below. The rangers need to be able to give climbers a heads up that rockfall and people above will increase the potential hazard on the route. The RFR group also attracts a lot of concerned hikers from the perimeter trail. Rangers field questions throughout the day as the mock rescues are occurring.

I have emailed RFR to request some communication about the training. No response has come from RFR.

October 12

OVF Closed due to a snow storm. Email notifications were sent to the guide services and Ouray Mountain Sports. Posts were also made to Instagram and Facebook.

October 13th

Due to the ice, snow and freezing temperatures the Ouray Via Ferrata will open today, October 13, at 10:00 am. We hope this is enough time for the ice and snow to melt. Email notifications were sent to the guide services and Ouray Mountain Sports. Posts were also made to Instagram and Facebook.

October 13**10:30 am****Dawn Glanc**

Rock fall could be heard in the canyon this morning. I heard two incidents that happened somewhere in the gully above the Mars wall exit. I heard the rocks, but I did not see them fall.

October 14

Due to a snow storm, The OVF closed at 11:00am. Notifications were sent to the guide services and Ouray Mountain Sports. Posts were also made to Instagram and Facebook.

October 15

Due to the overnight snow and freezing temperatures the OVF had a late start. The OVF opened at 12:00pm. Notifications were sent to the guide services and Ouray Mountain Sports. Posts were also made to Instagram and Facebook.

October 25**Dawn Glanc**

Over the past few months the rangers have been working to improve the entrance trail from the perimeter trail to the bridge over the penstock. This included the area around the perimeter trail kiosk. The project was completed over the weekend. The trail improvements include vegetation removal, rock removal, leveling the ground, lining the

trail with large rocks and laying gravel on the entire trail surface. A bench was also constructed for perimeter trail and OVF users. The improvements look great. With the completion of the trail, the rangers used all the gravel that Craig Hinkson donated. The giant gravel pile has been removed from the perimeter trail.



Photo: Improvements to the entrance trail include vegetation removal, rock removal, construction of rock walls and application of gravel.

The following two photos show the vegetation removal and rock work around the entrance kiosk. Gravel has been applied on the entire entrance route. The gravel stops at the perimeter trail intersection.





Photo: Improvements to the entrance trail include vegetation removal, rock removal, construction of rock walls and application of gravel.

October 26

Due to a snow storm the OVF was closed all day. Notifications were sent to the guide services and Ouray Mountain Sports. Posts were also made to Instagram and Facebook.

October 27

Due to the overnight snow and freezing temperatures the OVF had a late start. The OVF opened at 10:00am. Notifications were sent to the guide services and Ouray Mountain Sports. Posts were also made to Instagram and Facebook.

October 27**Dawn Glanc**

I am not sure what happened to the employee parking signage by the kids wall. I found the signs and the two concrete blocks on the north side of the bridge. The orange rope was wrapped around the guardrail on the south side of the bridge. I consolidated everything at the end of the guardrail by the kids wall. I contacted Pete Davis at OIPI about the incident.

October 28**Dawn Glanc**

The completed Upstream route opened to the public. An email was sent to the rangers, the guide services and Ouray Mountain Sports. A post was made to Instagram and Facebook.

October 31**Dawn Glanc**

The OVF celebrated the last day of the 2021 season on October 31st. A total of 58 climbers came through on Sunday. A costume contest was held from 8:00am-2:00pm. Prizes were awarded to the best individual and the best group costumes. The FOVF donated 3 OVF hats and 3 OVF Buffs as prizes.

Brock Adams from the City Parks Department and I teamed up to celebrate the last day of the OVF season. Brock helped me distribute posters to different social media groups. Brock and I served refreshments at the end of the downstream route from 12:00-2:00pm. We served hot dogs, halloween cookies and fresh banana bread. People were super appreciative of the refreshments and the celebratory attitude we all had. We encouraged climbers to donate online or by venmo.





Appendix B
Via Ferrata Economic Impact Study

Via Ferrata:
An Economic Prospectus

City of Ouray, Colorado



Prepared Independently by Andrew Klotz
March 2016

Introduction & Purpose

There are between 1500 and 2000 via Ferrata routes currently in operation in Western Europe. In Canada and the United States there are likely less than 10 total. Some of the European routes have counted more than 15,000 annual visitors. To put this in perspective, our best estimates suggest that the Ouray Ice Park receives approximately 12,000 to 15,000 user days per year – and that use occurs in an approximately 90 day season.

It is our belief that a high quality via Ferrata route in Ouray represents a significant opportunity to dramatically increase spring, summer and fall tourism in the County. We expect that this increase will manifest both in the form of new destination tourists, as well as additional overnight “capture” of existing tourists who will have good reason to stay another night to enjoy the unique and novel challenge of this emergent outdoor recreation trend.

The following analysis considers the potential economic benefits to the citizens of Ouray following the development of a via Ferrata.

Highlights

- There are more than 12,000 via Ferrata routes in Western Europe but less than 10 in North America, including Canada.
- Ouray has a unique opportunity to be “first in” on a burgeoning new sport – similar to its position when the Ice Park developed.
- A via Ferrata will result in significant increases in both shoulder seasons (spring and fall) as well as drawing additional guests in the core summer season.
- Currently the Uncompahgre canyon is primarily used as a winter destination with between 12,000 and 15,000 visitors accessing it for ice climbing during the short 90 day season.
- The season length for a via Ferrata is twice as long as the winter season at approximately 180 days.
- It is expected that although during the initial years of operation the number of users will be modest, the total use within a five year period should easily approach the numbers seen in the winter, albeit spread out over a much longer season.
- This report makes very conservative forecasts about the number of “new” visitors that the via Ferrata will attract over time, even so, the forecast numbers and expenditures are substantial.
- There are significant differences in the expenditure patterns of day, overnight, and guided parties.
- Total expenditures by new visitors stimulated by via Ferrata development should ultimately result in nearly \$5 million in new local expenditures, 48 new full time jobs, \$145,000 in additional tax revenue, over 4000 additional lodging nights, and nearly \$14,000 in new LOT revenue.

Baseline Assumptions

Seasons of Operations

The Ouray Ice Park season runs from approximately mid-December to mid-March, a season of about 90 days. The potential season for a via Ferrata would likely run from early May to late October, a season nearly twice as long, at 180 days. There are numerous known benefits to attracting visitors during the shoulder seasons of spring and fall. Intensifying summer use is also desirable, particularly as it relates to increasing the overnight duration of trips and/or converting what might otherwise be day trips through Ouray into overnight stays.

Winter Visitation

Currently, we estimate that the Ouray Ice Park receives 12,000 – 15,000 visitors during the ice season. Previous analysis of these numbers suggests that the multiplied effects of all visitor expenditures will exceed \$1.5 million during the 90 day ice season.

Summer Visitation

Because a via Ferrata will be in use May through October, this timeframe is referred to as “summer” in this report. Currently, LOT reporting for 2015 reveals that 78,361 room nights are rented in Ouray during the summer time period. Longwoods International Colorado specific data suggests room night parties comprise, on average, 2.9 visitors. However, internal data tracking amongst guide services suggests that climbing party group size is closer to 1.7 persons per party and we use that number for this analysis. Given these baselines, the total estimated number of overnight summer visitors to Ouray in 2015 was approximately 133,000. Some percentage of these are multiple night stays which results in double counting – consequently 133,000 does not translate directly to unique trips. In response, lacking a more refined analysis, we have rounded the number down to achieve a conservative estimate of 100,000 unique visitors. For reference, it is worth noting that CDOT records over 830,000 annual vehicle trips through the south Ouray counting station on Highway 550 (station ID 105577).

Guided vs. Unguided Visitation

The distinction between guided and unguided groups is important because the best data we have suggests the following:

1. Guided parties are often, or on average, somewhat more affluent than unguided parties
2. Excellent long-term data has determined that more affluent tourist parties spend more money on lodging, meals, entertainment, and shopping.
3. Guided parties are nearly always destination tourists spending at least one if not more nights at their destination
4. Recreation tourists in guided parties add a fourth category of expenditure to the lodging,

meals, and entertainment categories, and that fourth category is – guides. This is relevant because there is a current, and ever-growing, number of year-round Ouray individuals and families that make their entire household income from recreational guiding activities.

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Furthermore, it may be a reasonable (although undocumented or unanalyzed) assertion to claim that outdoor recreation oriented industry may be the fastest growing employment sector in the City of Ouray. In any event, building the opportunity for additional income in the summer will only further progress this trend and allow more people to become active and contributing members to the Ouray community, school district, and civic life.

Approximately 9%-12% of Ice Park visitors climb with a guided group from one of the 9 guide services operating in the park. We suggest that the percentage of guided groups utilizing a via Ferrata will eventually be higher, perhaps more than twice the current amount.

Although admittedly speculative, the following factors suggest this is a reasonable forecast. 1) via Ferrata is a relatively new sport and current understanding of its operation by the general public is low, 2) it requires specialized equipment and the paucity of via Ferrata routes in north America advises that the number of recreationists possessing the equipment is also low, 3) although via Ferrata is a much lower risk activity than traditional rock or ice climbing, constant exposure to extreme heights inherent to the sport contributes to a perception of high risk by novices and so many parties may seek out the assistance of a professional, at least for the first time out, 4) via Ferrata is a family friendly, destination activity and many parties may prefer the simplicity of pre-booking a trip with a guide as part of their vacation itinerary.

Expenditures per Visit

Longwoods International Colorado specific tourism study allocates average expenditures as:

1. Day visitors spend \$71 per person per day
2. Overnight visitors spend \$338 per person per day

Previous analysis has estimated that guided parties spend more per day than is typical when gear purchases/rental and guide fees are taken into account, the estimated daily expenditure for guided parties is \$687 per person per day.

Projected Visitation

It is difficult to project the use of a recreational asset that has not yet been constructed. This problem is further complicated by the fact that it is an asset serving a nascent sport for which there is little data in North America. This section attempts to make conservative and educated estimates based on reasonable inferences.

The USFS has made an undocumented (and likely not a thoroughly researched) assessment that something approaching 6,000 annual visitors currently use the via Ferrata in Telluride. We might further venture that the basis of this estimate was casually computed on informal counting of daily uses over a few days and then multiplied by some unknown (but probably reasonable) season length. Despite the weaknesses inherent in this second or third-hand information, the estimate seems reasonable enough to serve as a reference point.

There are several factors that should be factored when considering the use of Tellurides' via Ferrata including: 1) The Telluride via Ferrata operating season is significantly shorter than Ouray's – beginning sometime in mid-June and typically ending in September or early October due to snow coverage, 2) The Telluride via Ferrata was never sanctioned by the USFS, and in fact, was put up surreptitiously, 3) consequently, the Telluride via Ferrata has never been actively marketed, in fact, it was known as a "local's secret" and its location and existence was actively hidden and downplayed for many years, 4) the via Ferrata has no signage or authorized parking areas, 5) finally, the Telluride via Ferrata was not professionally constructed or planned and its recreational quality and reputation may, or may not, be considered equal to a legally sanctioned and professionally planned and built via Ferrata.

Given these factors, we propose the following to frame a conservative five-year forecast for via Ferrata visitation in the City of Ouray:

1. **Year 1:** use will be modest – primarily due to the developing nature of the sport in the United States. We estimate total annual visitation in Year 1 will be 10% of the current visitation to the Ice Park in winter – i.e. about 1,200 total users. This number is regarded as highly conservative given the current reference number of 6,000 visitors to the Telluride via Ferrata.
2. **Year 2:** use will double over year 1 due to growing curiosity and interest in the sport, especially by Ouray overnight and pass through visitors who witness users on the constructed via Ferrata route. Again, a still conservative number given our Telluride reference point.
3. **Year 3:** will see continued geometric growth of users as marketing efforts mature and numerous media publications and social media coverage gain traction and the asset gains wider regional, state and national recognition.
4. **Year 4:** experiences another doubling of growth, wherein total user days begin to

approach the total seasonal use of the Ice Park during winter. We believe this remains a conservative forecast due to the disparity of season length. That is, the via Ferrata season is double the season length of the Ice Park but total visitors are still assumed to remain less than current Ice Park visitation.

5. **Year 5:** we expect a plateau in visitation at numbers roughly equal to total visitation in the Ice Park. Further growth will be arithmetic and not geometric. This plateau could be overcome by the development of further phases of via Ferrata route construction.

The following chart outlines these assumptions and gives context compared to Ice Park use during the winter months. Note that the conservative estimate of 12,000 users is used throughout this analysis and calculations when determining year 5 total visitation.

Ice Park Season Approximate Length	90 days
Via Ferrata Season Approximate Length	180 days
Current Ice Park Estimated Visitors	12,000-15,000

	Forecast via Ferrata Visitors	Average Visitors per Day
Year 1	1,200	7
Year 2	2,400	13
Year 3	4,800	27
Year 4	9,600	53
Year 5	12,000-15,000	66

Remember that the visitors per day in the above chart is only an average. Some days there will be markedly more and some much less, even zero. The average only gives a coarse estimation of daily use. It seems reasonable to expect that these numbers may have a margin of error of +/- 20%.

Economic Impacts

Given projected annual visitors to the via Ferrata, an estimate of a total economic impact can be built. In order to conduct this analysis it seems prudent to break visitorship into two categories: 1) “new” visitors – that is, visitors who come specifically to participate in the via Ferrata and otherwise, would not have visited, and 2) “converted” visitors, that is, visitors who are visiting or passing through Ouray but will take advantage of the via Ferrata. Some converted visitors will opt to stay an additional night to participate.

Approximately 800,000 to 1 million travelers traverse all or portions of the San Juan Scenic Byway every year. Specific data concerning Ouray visitors is somewhat sparse, but there is good information available concerning visitor counts and trends from both the Ouray Box Canyon and Hot Springs offices. Undoubtedly, better data exists (but was missed in this report’s iteration) and a future refinement of this analysis may be able to establish more concrete estimates. Although these two data points cannot capture the full spectrum of visitation to Ouray we will utilize them as baseline information when making estimates.

Current Visitors and Trends

From the following chart we can see that there is a steady, organic, increase in visitation, particularly to the hot springs pool facility. This increase in visitorship has occurred without significant improvements to either the Box Canyon or the Hot Springs.

Box Canyon	Visitors	% increase over 2014
May	322	8%
June	1432	13%
July	576	3%
August	497	4%
September	1109	15%
October	314	8%
Hot Springs		
May	11798	17%
June	20970	14%
July	32485	12%

August	22377	3%
September	14334	35%
October	7360	13%

New Visitors

This is the most difficult category to estimate. First, we can see from the data above that substantial year-over-year increases are occurring at two recreation assets in Ouray. Second, the forecast of visitors to the via Ferrata seems reasonable given the Telluride baseline and existing Ice Park visitation. But the question remains as to what portion of those 1,200 visitors to the via Ferrata can be classified as “new”, that is, they arrive solely as a result of a via Ferrata?

Longwoods International Colorado Travel Year reports in 2014 that Colorado trips for outdoor recreation have been trending toward a consistent 7% year-over-year increase statewide; it is also worth noting that more than half of these trips originated in-state (not counting skiing trips); that is, they are Coloradans visiting Colorado. This is potentially important because the relative short in

State drive times may result in day or weekend overnight trips to participate in a new recreational facility such as the via Ferrata.

It seems reasonable, prudent, and highly conservative to estimate that in Year 1 only 7% of the projected via Ferrata visitors can be classified as new. Stated another way, we are using the annual increase of new outdoor recreation tourists at the statewide level to estimate the percentage of “new” tourists visiting Ouray to participate in a via Ferrata. It seems likely this is a gross

underestimation but functional for our year 1 forecast. Further, it seems reasonable to increase this geometrically, year-over-year, with our via ferrata vistorship, at least up to year 4. Following year 4 we only anticipate normal arithmetic user growth. This means that 7% of year 1 visitors will be new, 14% of year 2 visitors will be new, 28% of year three, plateauing at 56% percent in year 5 solely attributable to the via Ferrata. The following chart illustrates our total projected new visitors annually.

Year	Total via Ferrata Visitors	New Visitors
Year 1	1,200	84
Year 2	2,400	336

Year 3	4,800	1,344
Year 4	9,600	5,376
Year 5	12,000	6,720

Remember that “new” in this context designates visitors that arrive solely due to the via Ferrata, the remaining visitors are classified as “converted” (see following section). The distinction is important due to differing expenditure patterns and economic impacts of these two categories of users. New users bring new expenditures while only some of the converted users spend new dollars - they are assumed and calculated as contributing less because they are in the area for other purposes and would have made expenditures with or without the presence of the via Ferrata.

Converted Visitors

The assumption is that the remainder of the total via Ferrata users will be converted; that is, visitors who are in Ouray for other purposes (e.g. hot springs, jeeping, etc) but decide to participate in the via Ferrata as an additional activity while in Town. We conservatively estimate that 10% of these converted visitors will opt to stay an additional night in town to participate.

Year	Converted Visitors	Converted Visitors Staying an Additional Night for via Ferrata
Year 1	1,116	112
Year 2	2,064	206
Year 3	3,456	346
Year 4	4,224	422
Year 5	5,280	528

Economic Outcomes of via Ferrata

Several assumptions frame our economic outcomes and they are as follows:

1. All new visitors are considered overnight visitors at \$338 per person per day¹
2. Ninety percent (90%) of converted visitors are considered day visitors with \$71 expenditure per person per day – no additional new expenditures are attributed to these persons due to the via ferrata and their expenditures are not counted in the following charts
3. Ten percent (10%) of converted visitors staying an additional night expend \$338 per person for one additional day
4. Twenty percent (20%) of new visitors are counted as guided parties, increasing their per diem expenditure to \$687
5. Twenty percent (20%) of converted visitors are counted as guided parties increasing their per diem expenditure to \$687

Using these assumptions the following direct expenditure chart emerges.

Year	New Visitors	Direct Expenditures New Visitors	Converted Visitors	Direct Expenditures Converted Guided Parties ²	Converted Visitor Staying Night	Converted Overnight Visitors Direct Expenditures
Year 1	84	\$ 28,392	1,116	\$ 153,338	112	37,721
Year 2	336	\$ 113,568	2,064	\$ 283,594	206	69,763
Year 3	1,344	\$ 454,272	3,456	\$ 474,854	346	116,813
Year 4	5,376	\$ 1,817,088	4,224	\$ 580,378	422	142,771
Year 5	6,720	\$ 2,271,360	5,280	\$ 25,472	528	178,464

¹ Longwoods 2014 expenditure data

² Only guided parties are counted here as it is assumed that converted day visitors utilizing the via Ferrata will not increase their daily expenditures. Again, this is a conservative estimate because it assumes that 1) entrance to the park is free and or visitors will not become members of the park to visit, 2) that they own the necessary equipment and purchased it elsewhere, 3) that enjoying the via Ferrata has no extension effect on their visit.

The total direct and multiplied (secondary) expenditures are listed in the table below.

Year	Total Direct Expenditures All Parties	Total Multiplied Expenditures All Parties
Year 1	\$ 219,451	\$ 335,760
Year 2	\$ 466,925	\$ 714,395
Year 3	\$ 1,045,939	\$ 1,600,287
Year 4	\$ 2,540,237	\$ 3,886,562
Year 5	\$ 3,175,296	\$ 4,858,203

The following table outlines conservative estimates of new potential sales and LOT tax revenue stemming from additional visitors. At the far right column is an accounting new Full Time Equivalent Employees (FTE) creation facilitated by expenditures.

	New Lodging Nights ³	New LOT Tax	New Sales Tax ⁴	FTE
Year 1	115	\$ 345	\$ 10,073	3
Year 2	319	\$ 957	\$ 21,432	7
Year 3	994	\$ 2,982	\$ 48,009	16
Year 4	3,411	\$ 10,232	\$ 116,597	38
Year 5	4,264	\$ 12,791	\$ 145,746	48

³ Longwoods data suggests that party size for Colorado visitors is 2.9, data tracking by San Juan Mountain Guides for recreationally oriented visitors suggests a somewhat smaller party size of 1.7 visitors and this number is used in this report.

⁴ Sales tax data is somewhat overstated due to the fact that some of the portion of expenditures is spent on untaxed service categories

Conclusions

The development of a via Ferrata route in the Uncompahgre canyon represents a significant boon to the City of Ouray and its economy, particularly as a new summer draw and shoulder season attraction.

The numbers in this report admittedly rely on incomplete data and reasonable inferences. However, the weakness of data has been mitigated to some degree by utilizing severely conservative estimates. Consequently, errors in calculations are most likely on the upside, meaning that if the numbers are incorrect, it seems most likely that the numbers will be higher, not lower, than those presented in this report.

In summary, the following conclusions follow from this analysis:

1. The City of Ouray has a unique opportunity to be “first in” on the development of a world class via Ferrata route. This opportunity is akin to that experienced by the Ice Park in the 1990’s. Ouray was “first” in the business of developing a world class manufactured ice climbing asset and has capitalized grandly on the resultant novelty and subsequent explosion of what was once a marginalized and unknown sport. There is every reason to believe that exactly the same opportunity exists with the development of an exceptional quality via Ferrata.
2. A via Ferrata represents the capitalization of tremendous latent potential in an environment that is currently only used for 90 days a year. Completion of a via Ferrata allows the leveraging of a magnificent natural asset into a year-round recreation destination.
3. A via Ferrata is in-keeping with the adventurous and authentic experience of the

Uncompahgre Canyon without compromising the area's natural integrity. Experiencing the canyon through a thrilling and genuine summer climbing experience adds an entirely new dimension to the overall Ouray mountain experience.

4. In summary, via Ferrata, could, within 60 months or less, significantly enhance the City of Ouray's standing as a marquis outdoor recreation destination while also generating substantial revenue for citizens, business, and City government. The numbers in brief:
 - a. Over 4000 new lodging nights
 - b. Nearly \$13,000 in new LOT
 - c. Over \$145,000 in additional sales tax revenue
 - d. Perhaps most importantly, 48 new full time equivalent jobs for Ouray citizens.

Practically speaking these numbers represent the ability of Ouray businesses to turn part-time or seasonal employees into year-round wage earners and permanent residents. Increased visitation and expenditures afford opportunities for current businesses to expand and new businesses to initiate and flourish. Additional employees and expenditures translate into citizens being able to purchase homes and increase disposable incomes furthering their participation as active members of the community. Flourishing homeowners, individuals, and families form the basis of the community and civic life. And it is to these ends that we should look when determining the true return on investment of any new project.

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About the Author:

Andrew Klotz has twenty years of experience working on economic and planning projects with hundreds of government and private sector clients. He has been published by the *American Planning Association*, *Builder Magazine*, and by the *Colorado Municipal League*. He has been a featured speaker at numerous conferences including *Rocky Mountain Land Use*, *Smart Growth*, *APA* state and regional events, *Sonoran Institute*

conferences, and has provided counsel to Colorado state legislators on fiscal policy. Past clients and projects include: the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), National Park Service (NPS), United States Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the State of Colorado (DOLA), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Sonoran Institute. Additionally, scores of municipal, state, county, not-for-profit and agency clients throughout the western states of Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, Wyoming, Montana and Nevada. A small sampling of highlighted regional projects include economic and comprehensive planning in La Plata County, Ouray County, San Miguel County, Town of Telluride, City of Durango, Lake City, Teton County (WY), City of Aspen, Pitkin County, Mountain Village, Montrose County, Delta County and many others.

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City Administrator Report for June 21, 2021 City Council December 20, 2021 – January 7, 2022:

Administrative Assistant Position:

The City Office Administrative Assistant Position will open this week. I have been waiting for months to open this position since we had so many other hires. This is a 40 hour per week, benefited position, with a portion of the time assisting me directly, completing front office window tasks and providing support for the other city staff. This is a budgeted position.

Wayfinding Project Request for Proposals (RFP):

The City has received seven *Letters of Intent* from companies that are interested in the Wayfinding project. We asked for all questions to be submitted by January 7, 2022 and responses will be sent to all companies on January 14, 2022. There were more than 30 questions submitted. Proposals are due January 21, 2022; selection letters will need to be sent out February 22, 2022.

Water Treatment Plant:

Joe and I have a meeting on January 14, 2022 with the Grants and Loan Department of CDPHE on our State Revolving Loan pre-application. CDPHE Grants and Loan Department is worried about their timing of the pre-application and environmental review process to meet the January 15, 2022 submittal deadline for the water treatment project. This could potentially push our submittal to June, which could then delay construction or create the need to identify interim financing or possibly using some of the City's cash-on-hand.

Wastewater Treatment Plant:

Redesign efforts are continuing to try and control the cost escalation on the project. JVA Engineering is creating external and internal wall design plans currently and once completed Moltz Construction will then provided updated cost estimates. There are still a lot of unknowns as this point as we backed up to 60% design and are moving towards 75% engineered plans. Joe and I are meeting with the entire team at JVA Engineering and Moltz Construction bi-weekly to keep this project moving in the best direction.

Municipal Judge:

Thank you to Judge Zach Martin for his tenure being the Ouray County Court Judge and our Municipal Judge. Judge Martin is stepping down to relocate out of state as of February 22, 2022. Typically, the Municipal Judge position for both Ouray and Ridgway is filled by the County Court Judge. The Seventh Judicial District Nominating Commission will meet via videoconference Feb. 25, 2022, to interview and select nominees for appointment by the governor to the office of county judge for Ouray County. An interim judge is currently in the works so court action can continue before the appointment of a full-time replacement.

OurayColorado.com

The forwarding of OurayColorado.com to VisitOuray.com is not currently active. Rich Willis, IT Administrator, has been working with Network Solutions for the past week trying to get this issue resolved. I sent in additional verification paperwork this morning and we should have this issue resolved shortly.

Hot Springs Pool Closure (As Posted on Facebook on January 6, 2022):

⚠️ ATTENTION (1/6/2022): Due to staffing issues being exacerbated by COVID-19 at the Ouray Hot Springs Pool, we are unfortunately closed through Tuesday, January 11th, 2022. We truly apologize for this disruption in service. This was a hard decision, however, the health of our staff and patrons is of the utmost importance. Operations will begin back to normal on Wednesday, January 12th from noon to 7:00 pm. Thank you for your understanding and please stay healthy.

For clarity, the City received notification of a positive COVID-19 case by a staff member at the pool at 11:00 am this morning. Per the guidelines, City management immediately began contact tracing and determined there was close contact of at least three other staff members. All staff within close contact were immediately advised to quarantine to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

This decreased the staff capacity to below an acceptable level to meet safety standards. Again, we did not take this decision lightly and hate not seeing all the friendly faces at our wonderful hot springs pool. I am pleased with the quick response of our new Pool Manager, the City Resources Director, HR Director, and Aquatics Coordinator. We all had to make decisions very quickly and we worked to notify the patrons and community as quickly as possible.

As an update, the City pool maintenance crew has luckily not been exposed. Thank you to the maintenance crew as we are using this as an opportunity for deep cleaning and to complete other tasks that cannot be accomplished with patrons in the pools.

We hope you are able to visit our many hot springs pool partners in the area while we are closed. Please stay healthy and know we are working hard to take advantage of this unfortunate opportunity. The staff all hope to see you again starting next Wednesday.

Thank you,
Silas Clarke, City Administrator

Geothermal Line Stabilization Project:

The geothermal line stabilization project has been finalized by Williams Construction. We have a final walk-through later this week of the project to ensure there are no additional punch-list items. We are now working on creating plans for the next section of line to be replaced down to Oak street and possibly install a pump system to increase the flows. The good news is we are back up to around 56 gpm from the Box Canon line, which is comparable to the 2018 flow rate. There is still however a lot of hot water not being captured into the line and we are discussing options.

Master Parks Plan Request for Proposals (RFP):

I have reached out to the other City Administrators in the state to request a draft Master Parks Plan Request for Proposal. I will begin working on this document over the next month and get the solicitation out for work to begin in the summer of 2022 per the budget.

Visit Ouray Tourism Application:

The Visit Ouray mobile application is live in the Apple App Store and should be live within the next couple of weeks in the Google Play Store. In the Apple App Store it is named Visit Ouray – Official

City of Ouray Police Department

December 2021 and Year End Chief's Report

For the month of December 2021 OUPD ran approximately 251 calls for service. (This was as of 5pm 12/28/2021.

This is a slight increase from November 2021's 240 calls for service, but significantly less than December of 2020's 339 calls.

These included:

- **126 Patrol checks** (includes safety patrols, directed patrols and security checks)
- **11 Traffic stops and Parking complaints**
- **6 VIN certifications**
- **2 Bar checks**
- **2 Code violations**

For the year of 2021 OUPD ran approximately 4,725 calls for service. This is an approximately 6% decrease from 2020 when 5,023 calls were handled. In 2019 we handled 3,815.

The biggest increase in calls for service is Traffic Enforcement. Compared to last year's 233 traffic enforcement contacts this year we ran 547, more than double. The percentage remains approximately 80% parking issues and 20% moving violations.

The city invested in increased traffic signage for Main Street, posting signs controlling parking of oversized vehicles and overnight parking in winter months. We also posted signs directing recreational vehicles to the catchment basin at the western end of 9th Avenue for temporary parking. This successfully redirected a considerable amount of that parking volume off Main Street and secondary avenues. We ran a few complaints for overnight camping at the RV lot, but generally the compliance with the posted rules was high.

The level of nuisance and petty crimes remains steadily low, averaging less than 3 or 4 a month. The level of serious crimes (felonies and other Part 1 crimes) remains very low-less than 10 a year.

Recent Events: On December 1st we kicked off our annual Stuff a Cruiser food drive and fund raiser. We combined efforts with the Ouray Sheriff's Office and the Ridgway Marshal's Office to collect and distribute the collected food. We also coordinated with our allied agencies to host a Shop with a Cop day on Saturday the 18th. This was a big success, thanks to O'Toys for hosting the event and to Mouse's Chocolates and Coffee for giving the kids complimentary snacks at the end of the event.

Upcoming Events: Beginning in the new year OUPD will start its annual training and recertification courses. We generally have all of the mandatory training completed by spring in advance of tourist season. In addition to the state mandated training we will be sending officers to advanced training in Less Lethal Force, Alzheimer's/Dementia Awareness, Taser Instructor, and Investigations training.

Fire Department Report for December, 2021

12/29/21

2 training opportunities in the County for the month of November

Prepping for fireworks show. Almost a complete show. Public works assisting with us of shop and snow removal for access to our trailers.

Ladder truck is having transmission issues. Specialist needed for work. Took it to GJ for service.

St George training is Jan 20-22. 11 attending from Ouray

Nothing else to report for December

12.15 – Vehicle Accident. 8 responded, 2 hour

12.16 – Co Detector Activated. 3 responded. 1.5 hours

Public Works December 2021 Update

Water

- Water Usage Numbers for **November**:
 - Influent (Water from spring) – 31,337,216 Gallons
 - Effluent (Water to town) – 12,331,390 Gallons
 - Hydro Plant – 3,202,000 Gallons
 - Mineral Farms – 265,000 Gallons
- Continued to monitor chlorine residuals at the two entry points of the distribution system. The City has been in compliance and meeting all CDPHE requirements.
- Began filling out SRF loan application for the Water Treatment Plant. Deadline for submittal is January 15, 2022.
- Repair and clean PRV on Oak St.
- Continued working with Element Engineering to get to 60% design.

Sewer

- A repair has been made to the broken check valve in wet well #2 at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. In addition, all piping has been replaced in the wet well. Check valve and piping is scheduled to be replaced in wet well #1 in January.
- Continued to clean head works two to three times daily.
- Continued to skim lagoons of debris as needed.
- Continued meetings with JVA and Moltz Construction working towards 90% design.

Streets

- Grade roads throughout town as needed.
- Chain up equipment and prep for winter storm.
- Snow removal from parking spaces on HWY 550 on Saturday December 11th.
- Completed no overnight parking sign installation along HWY 550 parking spaces.



City Resources Department

January 3, 2022

Low geothermal water flow into the Hot Springs Pool continues to affect water temperatures in the pools and limits the number of pools that can be open. Flows are always reduced on Mondays when the geothermal well OX2 is shut off for 24 hours. Recently, geothermal flows into the Hot Springs Pool has been lower on the other days of the week compared to previous years. On Monday December 27, 2021 the Hot Springs Pool closed early. With 100% of the available water flowing into one pool the maximum temperature that could be maintained was 94 degrees. Typically this pool would be at 104 degrees and an additional pool would be open at 98 degrees. Here are flow readings taken on December 15 for the past four years.

- December 15, 2021 = 150 GPM.
- December 15, 2020 = 200 GPM
- December 15, 2019 = 210 GPM
- December 15, 2017 = 280 GPM

Several seasonal lifeguards who worked at the Hot Springs Pool last summer have returned to help during the holiday season. The Hot Springs Pool has been operating with a reduced staff all autumn. Seasonal staff helps provide an extra day off for the those who have been with us through these difficult months and will allow a cushion if employees must be out for sick leave.



Santa Claus visited the Hot Springs Pool for a relaxing soak a few days before Christmas. The visit was popular with children and adults.

Staff at the Hot Springs Pool had a subdued Christmas luncheon at the swimming pool before Christmas. The pool employees who smoked ribs for the rest of the staff are appreciated.

Ouray locals and visitors are invited to begin the new year with a Polar Plunge at the Hot Springs Pool on New Year's Day. Those who are interested may contact the pool for additional information.

Training and installation are completed. ActiveNet POS / Membership Management software is operational at the Hot Springs Pool. Minor glitches involving punch pass data migration and hardware compatibility were overcome in the days leading up to the 'go-live' date. Use of the software has been relatively smooth for staff and customers. Problems that arise are addressed with ActiveNet customer support. Additional features will be implemented as staff becomes more familiar with operation of the software.

A new dishwasher has been installed at the Community Center. This replaces the previous dishwasher that had several problems including water leaks from small holes caused by corrosion in the tub.

Windows for the Massard Room were ordered early in the fall season. Installation was scheduled for completion by mid-December. Production and shipping delays have caused installation to be scheduled for January or possibly February.

The annually required third party inspection of the elevator at the Community Center has been completed with the elevator deemed safe and operable. The City has a contract with Otis Elevator for quarterly maintenance. The annual third party inspection is an additional safety precaution required by the State of Colorado.

The bright red slide on the playground at Fellin Park remains fenced off. The current slide is damaged. A replacement was ordered last spring and has been on back order since that time.

At Lee's Ski Hill, the new fence enclosing the outside apparatus at the motor house has been completed. This improves safety for the public and staff. At the time of this writing there has not been sufficient snow to allow for operation of the tow. As soon as there is sufficient depth the tow will operate.

Improvements at the Box Canon Falls are scheduled for this winter. These include installation of a cable hand rail on the rocky section of the High Bridge Trail, reinforcement of the steel structure in the water fall viewing area, fencing improvements, and other work as time allows. Work is scheduled during the winter months because of the high volume of visitors using the park when the weather is more pleasant.

A steel fence is being constructed to enclose the pumping equipment and mixing vaults near the goldfish pond at the Hot Springs Pool. This project is in collaboration with the Beautification Committee.

An AED has been placed at Dick's Chalet at the Ice Climbing Park. In previous years the AED from the Box Canon Falls was moved to the Ice Climbing Park during winter months.

The liner is installed at the ice rink. Water has been spread to make a base of ice. As of this writing kickboards still need to be installed and additional layers of ice made. It is anticipated the rink will be open for skating by New Year's Day.

Submit to Local Licensing Authority

Fees Due		
Renewal Fee		
Storage Permit	\$100 X _____	\$
Sidewalk Service Area	\$75.00	\$
Additional Optional Premise Hotel & Restaurant	\$100 X _____	\$
Related Facility - Campus Liquor Complex	\$160.00 per facility	\$
Amount Due/Paid		\$

Make check payable to: Colorado Department of Revenue. The State may convert your check to a one-time electronic banking transaction. Your bank account may be debited as early as the same day received by the State. If converted, your check will not be returned. If your check is rejected due to insufficient or uncollected funds, the Department may collect the payment amount directly from your banking account electronically.

Retail Liquor or Fermented Malt Beverage License Renewal Application

Please verify & update all information below

Return to city or county licensing authority by due date

Licensee Name BPOE Lodge		Doing Business As Name (DBA) Ourray Lodge No 492		
Liquor License # 0401748002	License Type Club License	City Ouray	Sales Tax License # 0401748002	Expiration Date 12/31/21
Business Address 421 Main Street Ouray Co 81427				Due Date
Mailing Address PO Box 647 Ouray Co 81427			Phone Number 970-325-4310	
Operating Manager Jill Schen		Date of Birth	Home Address	Phone Number

- Do you have legal possession of the premises at the street address above? Yes No
 Are the premises owned or rented? Owned Rented* *If rented, expiration date of lease _____
- Are you renewing a storage permit, additional optional premises, sidewalk service area, or related facility? If yes, please see the table in upper right hand corner and include all fees due. Yes No
- Since the date of filing of the last application, has the applicant, including its manager, partners, officer, directors, stockholders, members (LLC), managing members (LLC), or any other person with a 10% or greater financial interest in the applicant, been found in final order of a tax agency to be delinquent in the payment of any state or local taxes, penalties, or interest related to a business? Yes No
- Since the date of filing of the last application, has the applicant, including its manager, partners, officer, directors, stockholders, members (LLC), managing members (LLC), or any other person with a 10% or greater financial interest in the applicant failed to pay any fees or surcharges imposed pursuant to section 44-3-503, C.R.S.? Yes No
- Since the date of filing of the last application, has there been any change in financial interest (new notes, loans, owners, etc.) or organizational structure (addition or deletion of officers, directors, managing members or general partners)? If yes, explain in detail and attach a listing of all liquor businesses in which these new lenders, owners (other than licensed financial institutions), officers, directors, managing members, or general partners are materially interested. Yes No
- Since the date of filing of the last application, has the applicant or any of its agents, owners, managers, partners or lenders (other than licensed financial institutions) been convicted of a crime? If yes, attach a detailed explanation. Yes No
- Since the date of filing of the last application, has the applicant or any of its agents, owners, managers, partners or lenders (other than licensed financial institutions) been denied an alcohol beverage license, had an alcohol beverage license suspended or revoked, or had interest in any entity that had an alcohol beverage license denied, suspended or revoked? If yes, attach a detailed explanation. Yes No
- Does the applicant or any of its agents, owners, managers, partners or lenders (other than licensed financial institutions) have a direct or indirect interest in any other Colorado liquor license, including loans to or from any licensee or interest in a loan to any licensee? If yes, attach a detailed explanation. Yes No

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO
(RESOLUTION NO. 1, 2022)

A Resolution of the City of Ouray designating a posting place for 2022

WHEREAS, the Colorado Open Meetings Law requires that all meetings at which the adoption of any proposed City policy or other formal action be held only after full and timely notice to the public; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 2 Section 1.D. of the Ouray Municipal Code requires City Council to designate a public place for posting notices of any such meetings; and

WHEREAS, this designation must occur each calendar year; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ouray now wishes to designate a public place within its boundaries for posting of such full and timely notices to the public;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO, THAT:

1. The City Council hereby designates the bulletin board outside the City Administrative Office, which is inside the entrance to City Hall at 320 6th Avenue, Ouray, Colorado, as the place for posting full and timely notice to the public:
2. All such notices, except those of emergency meetings, shall be posted at this designated place at least twenty-four hours prior to the holding of the respective meeting.

THIS RESOLUTION was approved and adopted the 3rd of January, 2022, by the Mayor and Council of the City of Ouray, Colorado.

CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO

Ethan Funk, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa M. Drake, City Clerk

From: [Mark Iuppenlatz](#)
To: [Silas Clarke](#)
Cc: [Nate Disser](#); [Alan Cook](#); [Sharon Wild](#); [Chris Hinkson](#)
Subject: FOVF Guide use fees
Date: Tuesday, December 28, 2021 12:26:40 PM

Silas:

I will bring you a check this afternoon for the portion of the user fees we are required to pay to the City. The amount is \$15,350.00. This represents 50% of 2020 (\$9,840) and 50% of 2021 (\$20,860).

We request that the funds be returned to the FOVF for use to fund the maintenance of the routes and partially fund the 2022 OVF Ranger program. We note that the Ranger program is not a requirement of our Management Agreement with the City but I think we can all agree it is a best practice that enhances both the visitor experience and safety. Support from the City is very important to our ability to continue to provide this service. The funds will stay in the community and benefit the local economy.

Sincerely,

Mark Iuppenlatz
Board Member
Friends of the Ouray Via Ferrata

2022 LIST OF COMMITTEE AND MEETING ASSIGNMENTS – Draft

Region 10	Mayor Funk
Gunnison Valley Transportation Regional Planning	Mayor Pro Tem Smith
Uncompahgre Water Users	Mayor Funk
CIRSA	All Council Members & City Administrator
CML – Colorado Municipal League	All Council Members & City Administrator
Ridgway Space to Create	Mayor Funk
Colorado Mountain Housing Coalition	Mayor Funk
Ouray County Transit Advisory Committee	Mayor Pro Tem Smith
Montrose Area Transit Advisory Committee	Mayor Pro Tem Smith
CAST – Colorado Association of Ski Towns	All Council Members & City Administrator
Ouray Ice Park Inc.	Councilor Wood
IPAT – Ice Park Advisory Team	?
Sneffels Energy Board	Mayor Funk
Communities that Care/Voyager	Councilor Wood
Multi Hazard Mitigation Plan	Mayor Funk
CEDC – Community Economic Develop Committee	Councilor Gulde
Multi-Agency Coordination Group	Mayor Funk
LEPC - Local Emergency Planning Committee	Mayor Funk
Employee Appreciation Committee	Councilor Wood
Parks and Recreation Committee	Mayor Pro Tem Smith
Ouray Beautification Committee	Councilor Lindsey
Ouray Recreation & Conservation Alliance	Mayor Funk & Councilor Gulde
Tri-Agency Dinner	Councilor Gulde
Tourism Advisory Committee	Councilor Wood

ORDINANCE NO. 1 (Series 2020)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO, REPEALING AND REPLACING THE OURAY MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 2-1-A, REGARDING CITY COUNCIL MEETING TIMES TO REFLECT THE MEETING HELD THE THIRD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 1:00 P.M..

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that the meeting time for Council meetings should be held at 6:00 p.m. for the first meeting of the month and 1:00 p.m. for the second meeting of the month.

NOW BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO, as follows:

SECTION 1: AMENDMENT TO THE CODE

Section 2-1-A, is amended and restated as follows:

The City Council shall hold regular meetings as outlined in Article 3.2 of the Home Rule Charter. Meetings shall be held on the first and third Monday of every month with the first Monday meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. and the second Monday meeting beginning at 1:00 p.m. Both meetings are held at the City of Ouray Community Center. Council may approve an alternate meeting date when a Monday is also an official holiday.

SECTION 2: EFFECTIVE DATE


The provisions of this Ordinance shall become effective thirty days after the public hearing and final action.

SECTION 4: SEVERABILITY

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, or part of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall for any reason be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction invalid, such judgment shall not affect application to other persons or circumstances.

INTRODUCED, READ, APPROVED AS INTRODUCED, AND ORDERED PUBLISHED on first reading by 5 to 0 vote of the Ouray City Council this 6TH day of JANUARY, 2020.

CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO

By 
Greg Nelson, Mayor

ATTEST:


Melissa M. Drake, City Clerk

INTRODUCED, READ AND ADOPTED on second reading by 5-0 vote of the Ouray City Council this 21st day of JANUARY, 2020.

CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO

By 
Greg Nelson, Mayor

ATTEST:


Melissa M. Drake, City Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTATION

I, Melissa M. Drake, Ouray City Clerk, hereby certify that Ordinance No. 1 (Series 2020), was introduced, read and passed by the Ouray City Council on first reading on JANUARY 6, 2020. The Ordinance was published, in summary, in the *Ouray County Plaindealer* on JANUARY 9, 2020, and thereafter introduced, read and adopted by the Ouray City Council on JANUARY 21, 2020, and thereafter published in the *Ouray County Plaindealer*, as required by law.


Melissa M. Drake, City Clerk

From: [Grossmann - OEDIT, Andrew](#)
To: [Silas Clarke](#); [Autumn Bailey](#)
Cc: [Hilary Lewkowitz - OEDIT](#); [Derek Schimmel](#); [Dan Moore](#)
Subject: Gov Office COVID-19 Meeting Guidance Update
Date: Wednesday, December 29, 2021 2:20:36 PM

Hi Silas and Autumn,

I had a chance to connect with the Gov Office yesterday after our call. Unfortunately, due to the spikes in COVID-19 we are experiencing, the Colorado Tourism Office is no longer approved to attend an in-person meeting on January 13.

We are sorry for any confusion this causes for you, but this is entirely out of our control at the moment. We are still committed to hosting a workshop with you when things settle down if you remain interested in one then.

Hilary and I had a chance to connect about the path forward. Please see our thoughts below:

1) We understand your primary need right now is gathering community consensus on the path forward for adding local capacity for the development, promotion and management of tourism.

a) One idea could be for you and Autumn to move ahead with the January 13 meeting and reduce it to a focus group/town hall style meeting designed to gather this consensus. This could be anywhere from a 60-120 minute meeting instead.

If you went this route, our team can help you design the session/presentation and provide talking points for you to use during the day.

c) you also know your community best, so I welcome any other ideas for how you can gather this consensus from everyone. I know you've made headway on this with the budget and other conversations, so there may be more options in front of us for this that we are not aware of.

2) Derek can begin the 75 hours of technical assistance for you as soon as tomorrow if we can agree upon part or all of a scope of work. We discussed helping you think through the work plan for Visit Ouray and then determining what stays in house and what is contracted out.

Let us know if this remains a priority and we can get started on this. Our assumption is that you need to have a consensus described above first though.

3) I still think a workshop in the way we discussed would be valuable to help validate (and receive community buy-in for) the work plan being implemented by Visit Ouray. This could be something we aim to host in late February *or* we could also target a time when the new capacity is on board so they are part of the process.

Apologies again for the confusion. I'm available at 973 270 7804 if you'd like to speak directly to talk this through.

All the best,
Andrew

--

Andrew Grossmann
Director of Destination Development



P 303-892-3840 | C 973-270-7804
1600 Broadway, Suite 2500, Denver, CO 80202
andrew.grossmann@state.co.us | www.colorado.com

Tourism Work Shop Rescheduling Proposal from Silas Clarke, City Administrator:

We were all hopeful the Work Shop to discuss the use of the Lodging Occupation Tax (Tourism Funds) was going to take place this Thursday to obtain feedback from the community. Based on the cancellation of the event by the State of Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) and the need to continue making progress, I am proposing the following:

- 1) Best Practices Presentation: OEDIT is putting together a slide presentation that can be provided to the City Council, Tourism Advisory Committee (TAC) and any interested community members. This presentation will include best practices from across the state on the creation of a tourism department within a City, along with outside consultant capabilities and appropriate roles. This presentation can be provided to the community during the week of January 24, 2022.
- 2) Competencies into Job Description(s) and/or RFP(s): OEDIT staff and I are concurrently putting together a complete list of competencies (job tasks) that are needed to successfully run our Tourism Fund (i.e. destination marketing; visitors center; digital asset management; media house; video and photo production, etc.). These competencies can then be reviewed by TAC and the Council to determine what is potentially best for an in-house position and what is best for an outside consultant to accomplish. Job descriptions and request for proposals can then be created to hire the appropriate positions and/or consultants.
- 3) Future Workshop: Based on the future decisions of what responsibilities should be completed by an in-house position(s) and/or outside consultant(s), OEDIT will then conduct a workshop to create the goals, objectives and an action plan. This will be based on the *TAC Strategic Plan* and all of our continued input. OEDIT staff have been told it may be possible for in-person workshops towards the end of February. We can discuss when the best timing of this workshop is based on future position placements and COVID.

Ouray Municipal Code:

7-5 Zoning Regulations:

Subsection J:

6. Accessory Dwelling Units

Dwelling units which meet the criteria of this Subsection may be allowed as an accessory use to a principal residential unit in the R-1, R-2, C-1 and C-2 districts provided that the dwelling units conform to the applicable requirements of said Districts.

- a. The accessory dwelling unit must be constructed in accordance with applicable requirements of Code adopted by the City pursuant to Chapter 6 of Ouray Municipal Code. It may be attached or detached to the principal residential unit. Applicable dimensional requirements for a single family dwelling as set out in Table 7-5-D must be met for the premises.
- b. One off-street parking space shall be provided for the accessory unit in addition to any other required off-street parking.
- c. The accessory dwelling unit may not exceed 1,000 square feet of living area.
 - i. **One of the dwelling units on the property must be, and remain, owner occupied.** If the other dwelling unit is rented, a minimum of a 30-day rental period shall be required by written lease.
- d. The accessory dwelling unit must be owned together with the principal residential unit, and the lot or parcel upon which they are located, in undivided ownership.
- e. The accessory dwelling unit may be served off of the water and sewer taps for the principal residence, in which case it shall not be subject to additional investment fees, and the primary residence and accessory dwelling unit shall be charged as a duplex for water and sewer service rates.
- f. The burden shall be upon the owner of any accessory dwelling unit to provide adequate proof to the City that the criteria of this Section are met. In the event that the City determines that the criteria have not been shown to be satisfied the unit may not be occupied as a residence.
- g. A dwelling unit constructed as a principal single-family home, which meets these criteria, may be converted to an accessory dwelling unit following construction of a new principal dwelling unit.