

**AGENDA
OURAY CITY COUNCIL**

Tuesday, February 20, 2024 - 6:00 PM

**Ouray Community Center
320 6th Ave
Ouray, CO 81427**

VIRTUAL OPTION - <https://zoom.us/j/9349389230>

Meeting ID: 934 938 9230 Passcode: 491878 Or dial: 408 638 0968 or 669 900 6833

Ouray City Council Regular Meeting

- Changes to this agenda can be found on the bulletin board at City Hall
- Electronic copies of the Council Packet are available on the City website at www.cityofouray.com. A hard copy of the Packet is also available at the Administrative Office for interested citizens.
- Notice is hereby given that a majority or quorum of the Planning Commission, Ouray Economic Development Committee, Beautification Committee, Tourism Advisory Committee, Main Streets Committee, and/or Parks and Recreation Committee may be present at the above noticed City Council meeting to discuss any or all of the matters on the agenda below for Council consideration

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. CEREMONIAL/INFORMATIONAL - Friends of the Ouray Via Ferrata 2023 End of Season Report
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - January 5 and 12, 2024 Meetings
6. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATION
7. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS/INFORMATION - Tamara Gulde, Peggy Lindsey, Michael Underwood, Josh Smith, and Ethan Funk
8. DEPARTMENT REPORTS
 - a. City Administrator
 - b. Director of Finance and Administration
 - c. Acting Police Chief
 - d. Information Technology Director
 - e. Communications and Community Engagement Coordinator
9. CONSENT AGENDA
 - Liquor License Renewal - Kamis Samis
 - Liquor License Renewal - Colorado Boy Southwest
10. ACTION ITEMS
 - a. Ordinance Regarding Special Event Liquor Permit
 - b. Appointment of Erin Cawley to Main Street Committee - Member-at-Large
11. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - a. Snow Removal Signage
 - b. Huckstering Permit Requirements and Fees
 - c. Hot Springs Alternative Heat Source Work Session Scheduling
 - d. Future Agenda Items
12. ADJOURNMENT



(Photo credit: Ryan Dingwall)

Friends Of The Ouray Via Ferrata 2023 End Of Season Report 11/07/2023

Written by:
Dawn Glanc, Head Ranger at the Ouray Via Ferrata
viaferrataramer@gmail.com

The 2023 Post Season Report is an outline for the city and the public to gain understanding of the 2023 Ouray Via Ferrata Season.

The Friends of the Ouray Via Ferrata (FOVF) report includes the following topics:

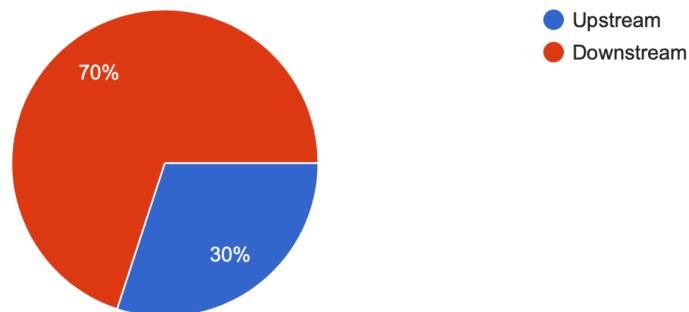
1. Background Data
2. Operational Overview
3. Financials
4. Friends of the Ouray Via Ferrata Board
5. Friends of the Ouray Via Ferrata Ranger Staff
6. 2023 Season Overview
7. Guide Use
8. Communication Plan
9. Lanyard Rental Program
10. Incident Reports
11. Rule Change Information
12. OVF Improvements
13. OVF improvement Suggestions

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 4,701 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. If a climber combines the Upstream and Downstream routes, the information is collected in a separate data point. 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

4,701 responses



Operational Overview

The Ouray Via Ferrata opened on May 6, 2023. Lingering ice and snow, and maintenance needs delayed the opening of the OVF by 5 days. The Downstream and Upstream routes were open all year.

The OVF was open from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm from May 6 - October 31, with some closures due to weather, a penstock break, and the blasting project at the water treatment construction site. Email and text notifications were sent to the Ouray City Administrator, all permitted guide services, the Ouray Visitor Center and the gear rental agencies. A social media post was made to Instagram each day the closures occurred. All stakeholders were tagged in the post.

The Ouray Via Ferrata was closed for weather on:

May 11

June 2 (opened at 12:30pm)

June 17 (opened at 12:00pm)

September 15

October 2 (closed at 12:00pm)

October 28

October 29

October 30

October 31 (open from 10:00am-2:00pm)

The Ouray Via Ferrata had some closures in June due to the construction project for the City Of Ouray Water Treatment Facility. The construction crew had the blasting project scheduled for Monday and Wednesdays in June. The blasting project occurred above the Via Ferrata downstream route. The blasting caused the perimeter trail/OVF access

trail to close 30 minutes prior to the blast. The trail remained closed until the all clear was given.

Joe Coleman, Ouray Public Works Director, kept in direct phone and email communications each day of the blast. Email and text notifications were sent to all permitted guide services, Ouray Visitor Center and the gear rental agencies. A social media post was made to Instagram each day the blasts occurred. All stakeholders were tagged in the post.

The blasting did not close the OVF because the safety director did not feel the OVF had to close. This plan stayed in effect until June 21 when guides from Mountain Trip and Basecamp reported near misses from rockfall. The blasting safety protocol immediately changed to include closing the OVF. The blasting project wrapped up on July 17.

The Ouray Via Ferrata was closed on August 22 until 11:00 am due to the Penstock Leak. The pipe burst sometime in the morning before 7:00am. The OVF Ranger reported the burst around 8:00 am and closed the Downstream Route until an inspection could occur. Clint Cook inspected the Downstream route because it was blasted by the penstock water for more than an hour. After a thorough inspection, the route was reopened.

Financials

The FOVF raised and spent more than \$400,000 in the first two years of operation to design, build and operate the Ouray Via Ferrata. In the fall of 2021 the City of Ouray made a donation from the Lodging Occupation Tax (L.O.T.) to be used as a matching grant for the Telluray Foundation. The funds the city gave the FOVF were used to offset upstream route construction debt. For the first time, the FOVF will be starting the season slightly in the black. All money raised in 2022 will go towards operations, route maintenance, trail construction and possible route options or expansion. The projected annual budget for the 2022 OVF Season is \$50,000. 2021 financials prepared by our CPA, SOlga & Jakino, are attached to this report.

In 2023 the permitted guide services paid \$18,310.00 in client use fees. The FOVF will conservatively forecast the income for 2024 using the average totals from 2020-2023.

Friends Of the Ouray Via Ferrata Board

The Ouray Via Ferrata is a city park owned by the city of Ouray. The city of Ouray contracts with the Friends of the Ouray Via Ferrata to operate the facility. The FOVF board is responsible for but not limited to fundraising, budget management, financial planning, route maintenance, safety inspections, route expansions, website

management and payroll. The Head Ranger is tasked with the daily operations, scheduling, trail improvements, social media and employee management.

The FOVF Board consists of five Ouray Residents:

- Nate Disser
- Mark Iuppenlatz
- Alan Cook
- Chris Hinkson

No one on the board of FOVF is paid. All of the board members are volunteers and have donated hundreds of hours of time to raise funds for the Ouray Via Ferrata.

The FOVF Board is responsible for the concessionaire permitting. The permits are issued and reviewed by an independent committee with the FOVF. The committee consists of Alan Cook and Chris Hinkson.

Friends Of the Ouray Via Ferrata Ranger Staff

The Ouray Via Ferrata employed 7 rangers for the 2023 season. Despite the large number of staff, the Rangers had a hard time juggling covering the shack and personal time off. This was the first time, in four years, that the head ranger took time off over the Fourth of July Holiday. This absence created a lack of available OVF staff. The office staff and guides from San Juan Mountain Guides stepped up to cover the shifts when a ranger was absent. A big thank you to San Juan Mountain Guides for helping to keep the Ouray Via Ferrata open and running smoothly.

The OVF ranger staff included:

Dawn Glanc, Head Ranger
Chris Hinkson
Josh Bailey
Dorothy Kammerer
Irene Karten
Brooke Warren
Shane Sisler (Went back to School at the end of August)

The OVF ranger staff had a preseason training session on April 26 hosted by Head Ranger, Dawn Glanc. Brooke Warren, Dorothy Kammerer and Chris Hinkson attended. Ranger Josh was out of town. The morning was spent in the ski office of San Juan Mountain Guides. The office time was used to download google forms, review employee manuals and discuss changes to the operation plan. The training moved to the OVF in the afternoon. In the field Dawn reviewed basic hauling systems, efficient raises and

technical lowers with the rangers. The rangers practiced the rope work and technical systems on the First Early exit of the Downstream Route.

Dawn held another ranger training/orientation for Shane Sisler, Irene Karten and the San Juan Mountain Guides that were going to help cover ranger shifts. Dawn covered the basic duties of the ranger, and what to do in an emergency. Each employee observed rangers on duty to help understand the job.

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. With the Upstream route open, traffic and crowding has occurred at the entrance area. Having two rangers on duty allows management of both entrances. Two employees on shift allows for one ranger to manage the route entrances and the second ranger to patrol the OVF, offer traffic control and climber assistance.

The Ouray Via Ferrata is not immune to the problems other employers face. Staff shortages and weather delayed the opening of the OVF by 5 days. Staff shortages also left one ranger on duty on some weekends in September. The staff shortage is an issue when more than 100 climbers show up to climb. There were Saturdays in September with 200 climbers and 1 ranger on duty. The lack of staff made rescues challenging and route patrol impossible. Next year more Rangers will be hired specifically for weekends and holidays to help ease the load on the staff.

The Ouray Via Ferrata rangers had lunch together on November 2. All the rangers attended, except Shane who is at college. The rangers debriefed the season and looked for ways to improve operations.

Notes from the Ranger Debrief:

- Get a small heater for the ranger shack
- Get another solar light for the ranger shack
- Get gravel or wood chips for the entrance trail, especially around the shack to keep the dust down
- Early exit trails on both OVF routes need to be improved and signed to guide climbers back to the parking area
- Include OVF in the Ouray Wayfinding project
- Can we turn away climbers who wear sandals on the route? Can we make a closed toe shoe mandatory?
- The Head Ranger needs to change the google form used to collect data. Make changes to reflect multiple places a group is from.

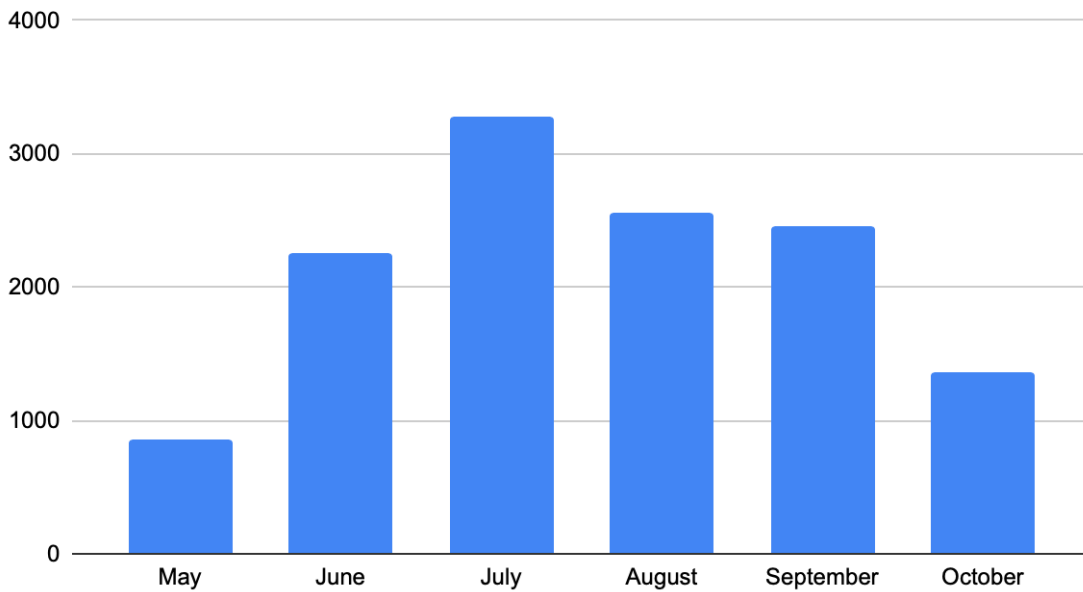
- The OVF brochure needs to be updated. Entrances and exits should be well marked.
- Update OVF entrance signage to reflect the weight limit rule change.
- Update signs on Upstream Entrance Bridge and Ladder to reflect 1 climber at a time.
- Gear Questions for Gear Manufacturers
 - Is a caving harness adequate to catch fall on the OVF?
 - Is a canyoning harness adequate to catch fall on the OVF?
 - Is a Rescue/Rope Access harness adequate to catch fall on the OVF?
 - What is considered a deployment of the lanyard system?
 - What is the OVF policy on gear recalls?
 - Rangers discussed the Zephyr Y lanyard system and agreed to not allow the lanyard style on the OVF due to the fact that the system is outdated gear that was recalled

2023 Season Overview and Comparisons

Total Number Of Climbers and Guides

The Ouray Via Ferrata (OVF) saw a total of 12,769 climbers and guides from May 6 - October 31, 2023. The OVF saw a total of 1811 guided climbers from May 6 - October 31, 2023. Guide traffic was higher than the previous year, however guided parties made up only 12.1% of the total OVF users in 2023.

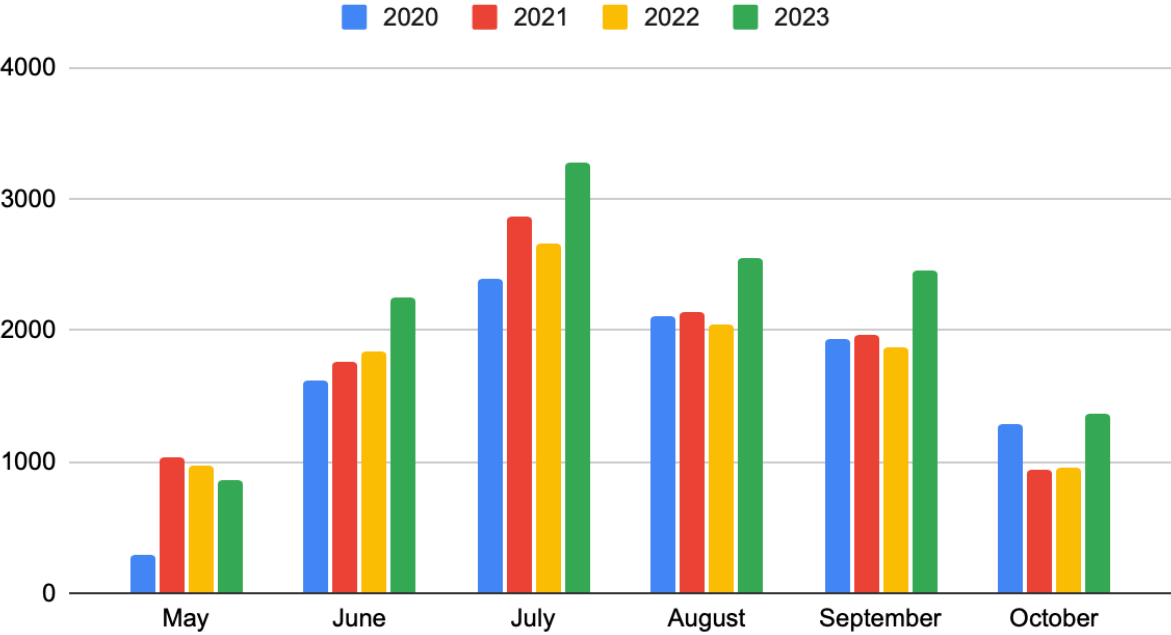
Monthly Climber/Guide totals for 2023



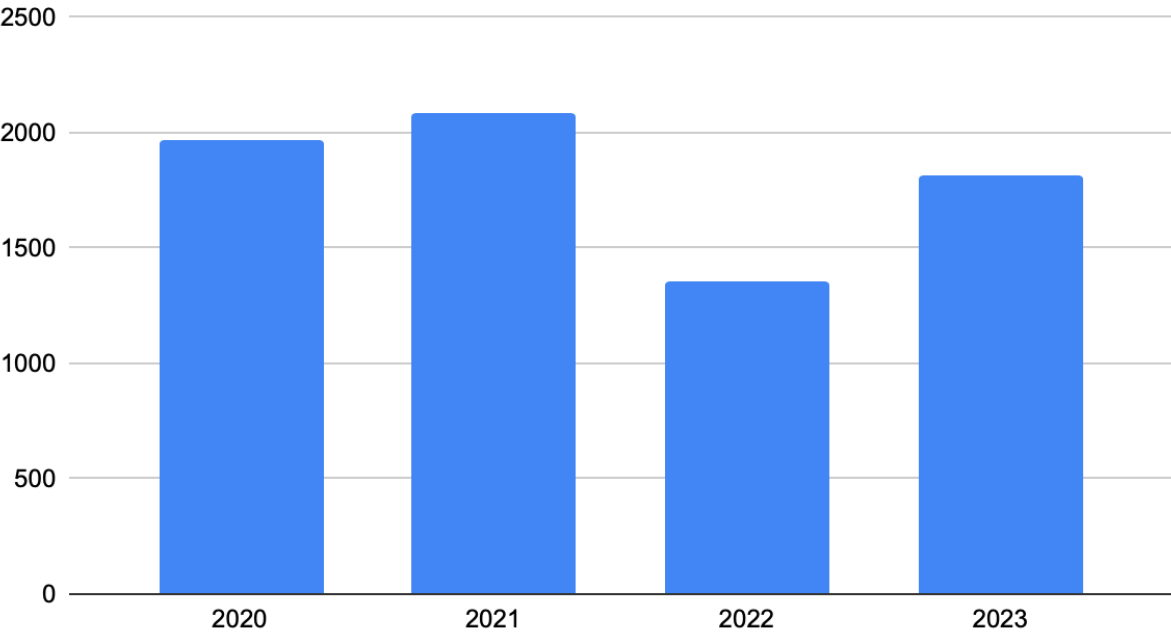
Total Number of Climbers and Guides from year to year.

Month	2020	2021	2022	2023
May	289	1035	966	858
June	1620	1763	1846	2252
July	2387	2867	2669	3278
August	2110	2144	2047	2553
September	1935	1971	1879	2460
October	1292	942	952	1368
Totals	9633	10722	10359	12769

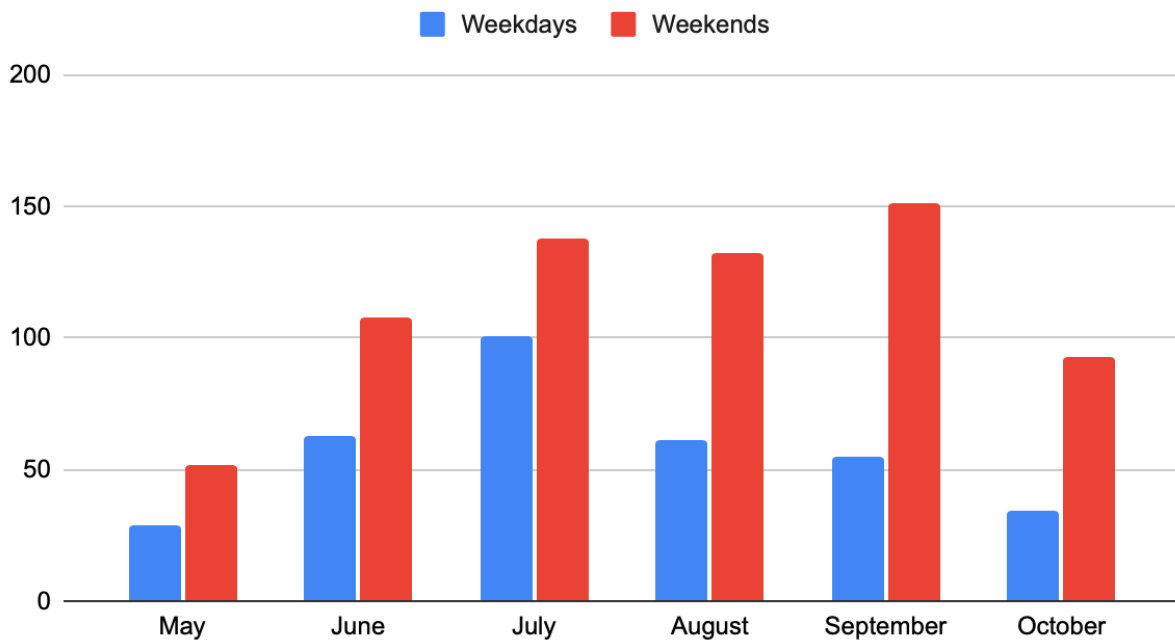
Climber/Guide Traffic from year to year



Year to Year Guided Client Numbers



2023 Daily Average Number of Climbers/Guides



The daily number of climbers increased from May through July. This year we spiked in July with a record 3000+ climbers. To help manage the crowds and the traffic flow, two rangers were on duty most weekends from May - September. Unfortunately, some weekends the OVF was short staffed with only one ranger on duty on the weekends. When a ranger sees over 100 climbers a day by themselves, it is almost impossible to take a break or patrol the routes. There were 3 Saturdays this year in which one ranger saw 200 climbers each day. The busy Saturdays did not fall over a holiday weekend. This amount of climber traffic is simply impossible for one employee to manage. Luckily the climbers could recognize the lack of staff and no misconduct incidents occurred. Rescues become very challenging when there is only one employee on a busy day.

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

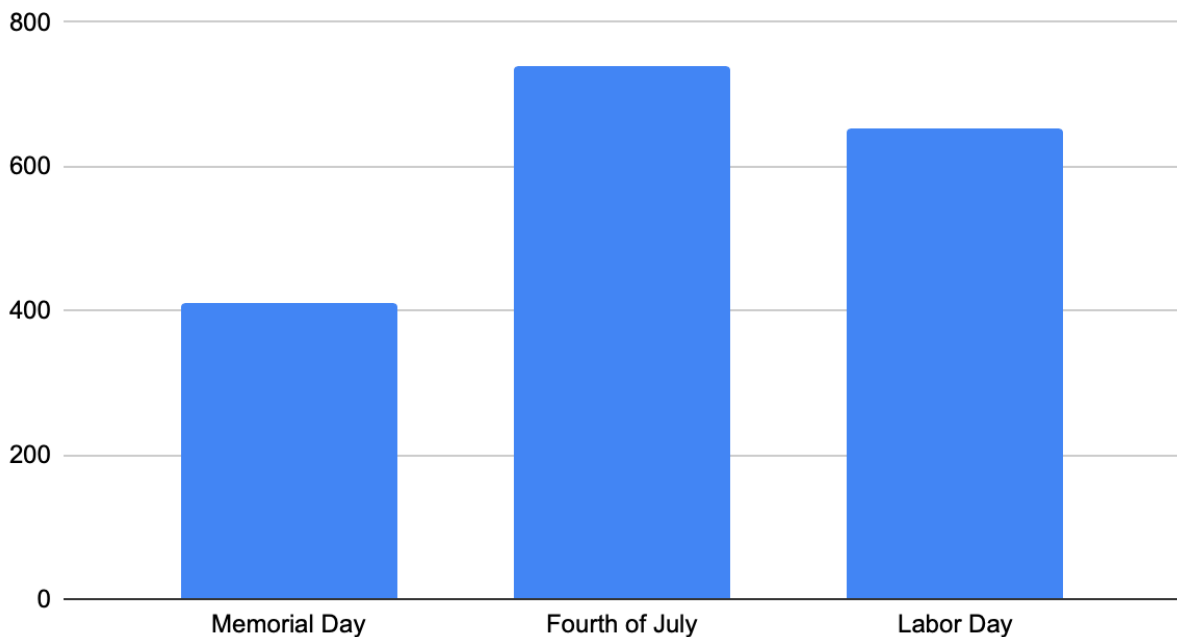
- Memorial Day weekend was the first busy weekend. The 2023 Memorial Day weekend saw 410 total climbers, with a daily average of 102 climbers a day. This Memorial Day was busier than 2022 with almost 100 more climbers this year.
- The July 4th weekend was crazy. The Holiday fell on a Tuesday. Because the holiday fell a few days from the weekend, it made the weekend celebration last

from Friday-Tuesday. The climbers far outnumbered the crowds in 2022. A total of 738 people climbed the OVF from June 30-July 4th. The daily average over the holiday weekend was 147 people a day. The Rangers were prepared with three rangers on staff Saturday and Sunday.

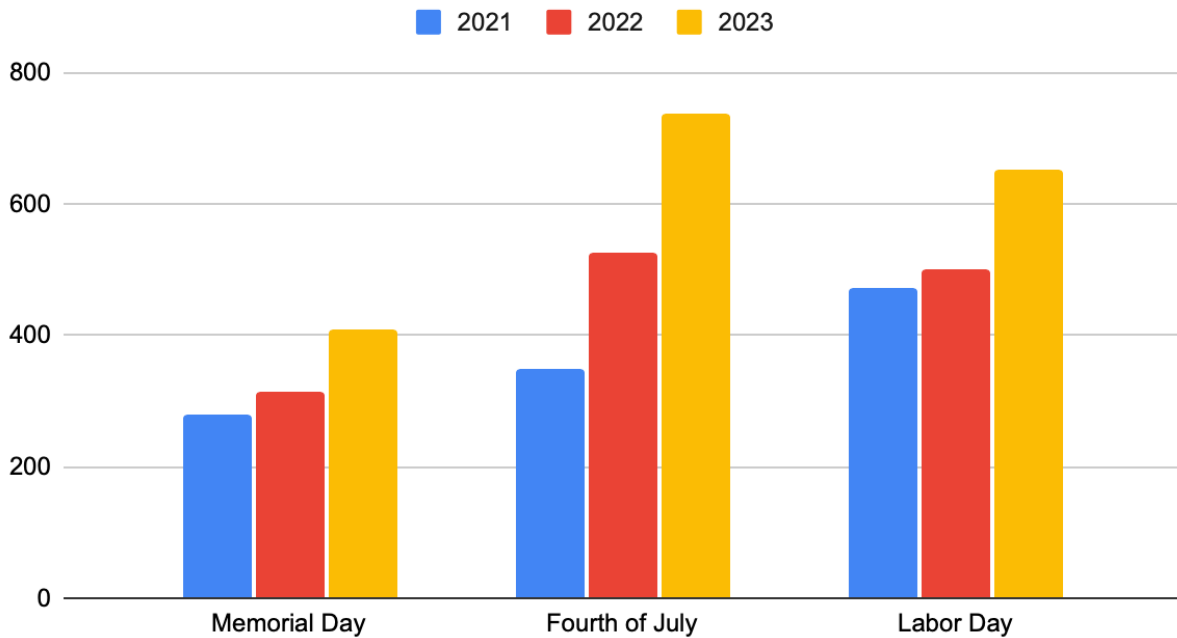
- Labor Day weekend was very busy. A total of 653 people climbed the OVF over the Labor Day Holiday. This is up 150 climbers from the previous year. The daily average over the holiday weekend was 163 people a day.

Holiday	Total Climbers	Average per day
Memorial Day (May 26-29)	410	102
Fourth of July (June 30-July 4)	738	147
Labor Day (September 2-5)	653	163

2023 Climber/Guide Holiday Totals

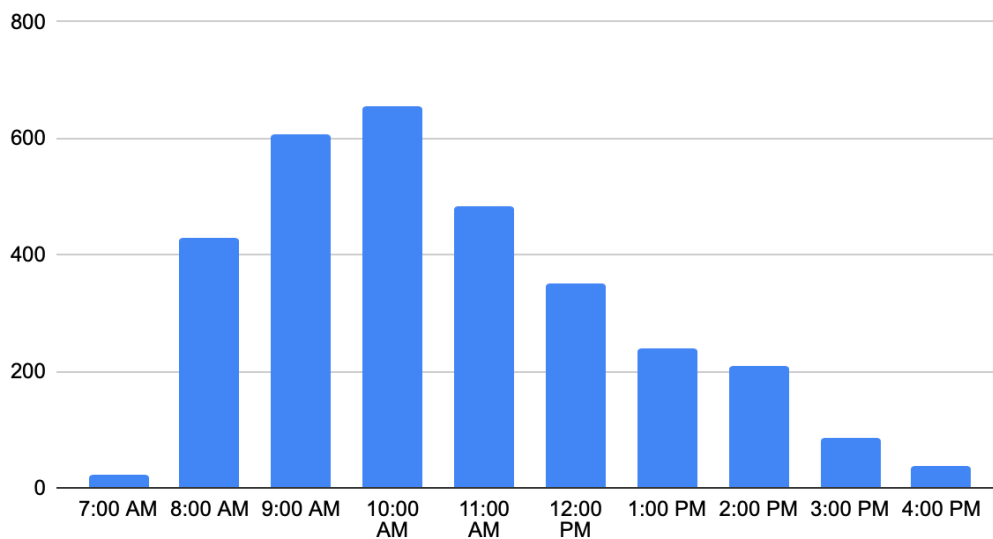


Climber/Guide Holiday Traffic



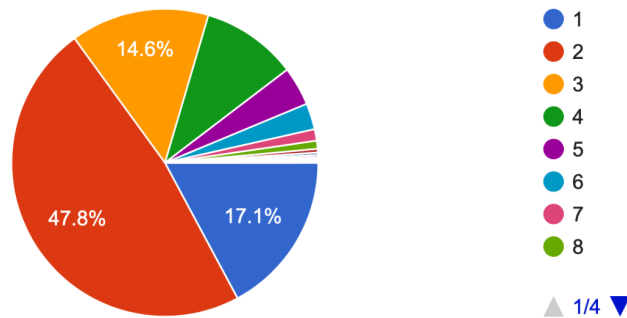
The following chart shows the time of day climbers start the OVF routes in the 2023 OVF season. This includes both the Upstream and Downstream Climbers.

Time of Day that Climbers Begin the Route



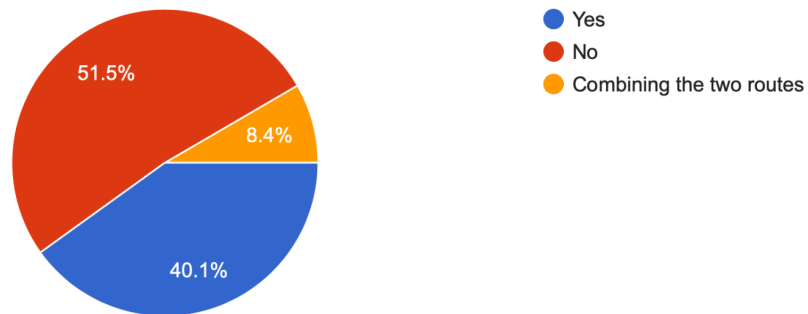
This chart shows the number of climbers in each party. Large group sizes are more common on the weekends. There were many large groups this year. Rangers asked each group to spread out and allow other climbers to pass. There were no complaints about the large groups.

Number of climbers
4,701 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?
4,683 responses

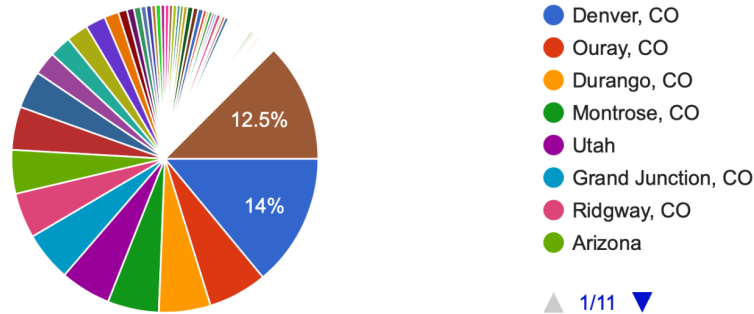


This chart shows where OVF climbers originate from. The Colorado west slope corridor from Grand Junction to Durango accounts for a big bulk of the climbers. Denver, Utah

and Arizona are also locations where climbers travel from. Denver is the largest social media audience, with a larger participation rate among females compared to males.

Address (City/State)

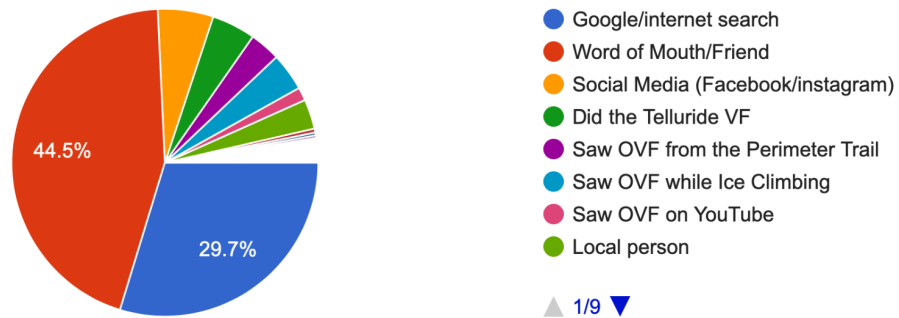
4,701 responses



This chart shows how the climbers hear about the OVF. A new answer trending this year was TikTok Videos. 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 they hear about the OVF?

2,664 responses



Guide Use Report

Summary

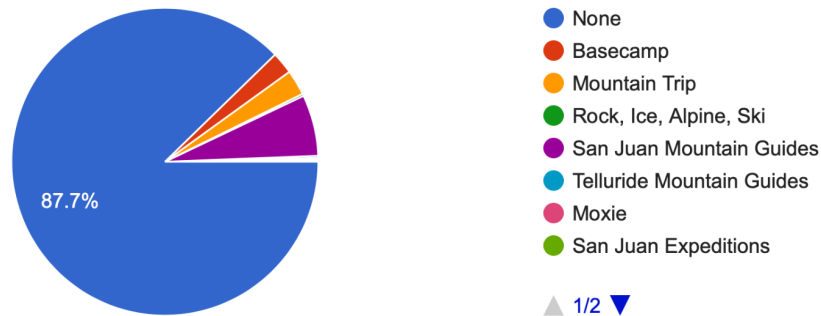
The Ouray Via Ferrata allowed 7 permitted guide services to operate in the park. The OVF saw a total of 1811 guided climbers from May 6 - October 31, 2023.

Guides held training at the OVF. Mountain Trip, San Juan Expeditions, Basecamp and San Juan Mountain Guides each held training for their staff.

2023 OVF Guide Service Use

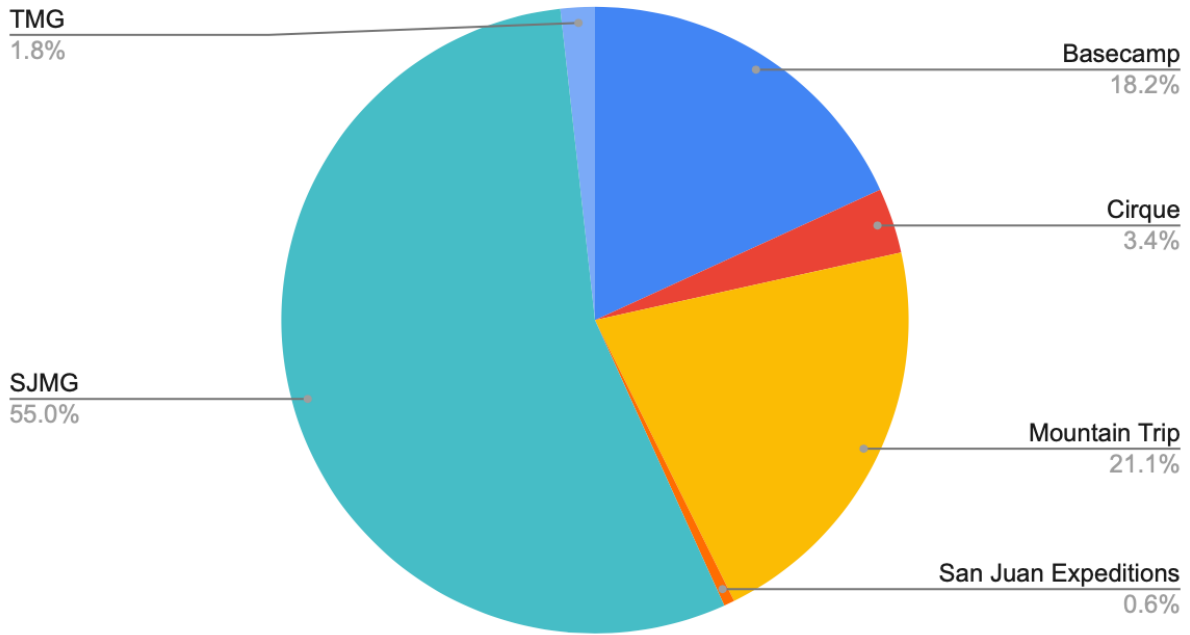
This pie chart compares the number of recreational climbers, represented as none, to the number of guided climbers. Guided groups made up only 12.1% of the total OVF usage which is below the recommended FOVF management plan goal of 20%. More guide permits could be issued in the future.

Guide Service
4,701 responses

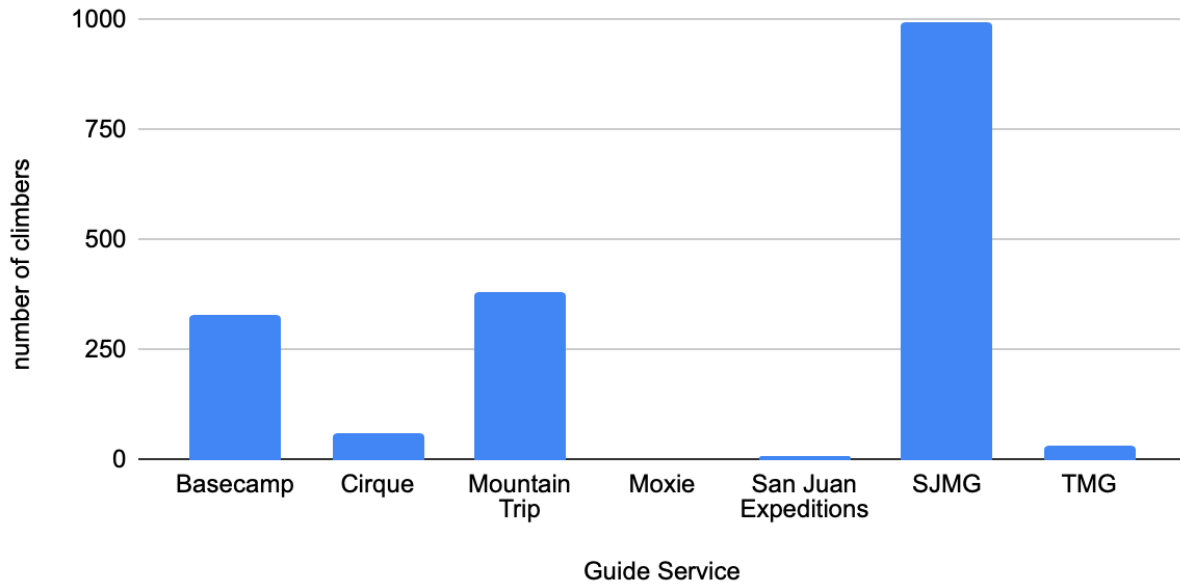


The next two charts show the number of individual guests that each guide service guided on the OVF. This includes both the upstream and the downstream route. There is no “user day” limitation placed on guide services. Each permitted guide service receives unlimited guiding days each season.

Percentage Of Client Distribution Per Guide Service



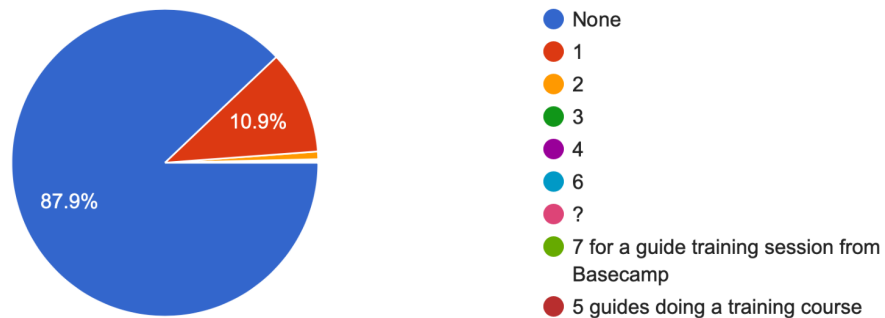
Total Clients Per Guide Service



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 ratios were increased in 2022 to help accommodate the guide's request. The current guide to client ratio is 5:1. This Chart includes both the upstream and the downstream route.

Number of Guides

4,701 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, 2023. 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	329		\$3290.00
Mountain Trip	383		\$3830.00
Moxie	0		\$150.00
Rock/Ski/Alpine	61		\$610.00
San Juan Mountain Guides	996		\$9960.00
San Juan Expeditions	10		\$150.00
Telluride Mountain Guides	32		\$320.00
Totals	1811 Guided Climbers		\$18,310.00 Due to the FOVF
*Minimum fee due to FOVF is \$150			

Communication With The Public And Internal Communication

In 2022 a direct line of communication was created between the Ouray Sheriff's Department and the OVF Ranger staff. This line of communication continued in 2023. Each month the ranger schedule was sent directly to Sheriff Perry. If a 911 call came in to dispatch, the sheriff could directly contact the ranger on duty. This system worked well in 2023. Rangers were quickly able to assist climbers when needed.

In 2023 a phone contact list was established to send text messages directly to the guide services and rental agencies. This allowed the Head Ranger and the Ranger on duty to easily send out information to the group. The text message communications were clutch during the blasting closures. All parties could communicate updates and notifications quickly and easily.

Social Media, Texts and emails were used to communicate closures and other important OVF information to stakeholders and the public. The Head Ranger would send an email directly to the FOVF Board, the OVF Rangers, the City of Ouray, the Ouray Visitor Center, Ouray Mountain Sports, all permitted Guides Services and the Ouray Chamber. A text message was sent directly to the guide services and rental agencies. Social media was also used to alert the above mentioned stakeholders and the public. Instagram and Facebook accounts allowed instant communication with the public. From April-November daily posts were made to Instagram and Facebook. The social media posts tagged all permitted OVF guide services, Ouray Mountain Sports, the city of Ouray, Visit Ouray, Ouray Chamber, Ouray Grocery, Ouray Brewery, Ouray Climbers Alliance, Telluride Mountain Club, Durango Climbers Alliance, and Western Colorado Climbers Coalition. The intent was to reach more climbers by tagging the surrounding climber groups.

In the 2022 FOVF post season report, a request was made to the city of Ouray to help create a line of communication between Rigging For Rescue to alert rangers of RFR courses in the gorge. During the month of May the Rangers were still seeking direction from the city. Email communications were made by RFR in 2023. Starting in June emails were sent to the Head Ranger to alert the Ranger on duty of the course location. Rangers were notified by text and email of the RFR course. This communication system worked out well. There were no issues to report.

Climbers and Rangers reported some loose rock and a few loose ladder rungs this year. An open line of communication between the rangers and the maintenance crew allowed for quick action. All requests for maintenance were completed within 48 hours. No route closures were necessary to complete the maintenance.

The Rangers have formed a good working relationship with the Hydro Electric Plant staff. The Ouray Via Ferrata was closed on August 22 until 11:00 am due to the Penstock Leak. The pipe burst sometime in the morning before 7:00am. The OVF Ranger reported the burst to John, the Hydro Electric Plant Manager, around 8:00 am and closed the Downstream Route until an inspection could occur. John kept the Ranger updated as the situation developed. Clint Cook inspected the Downstream route because it was blasted by the penstock water for more than an hour. After a thorough inspection, the route was reopened.

San Juan Mountain Guide Lanyard Rental Program

The Friends of the Ouray Via Ferrata partners with San Juan Mountain Guides to provide rental lanyards at the Ranger Shack. This program was very successful. 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 \$35 - \$30 to SJMG and \$5 to FOVF. Each transaction was called into SJMG and processed by phone on the day of the rental. Climbers also used Venmo to pay the rental fee directly. The system worked great. In 2023 a total of 35 Lanyards were rented by the OVF Rangers.

Ouray Mountain Sports, Basecamp, and San Juan Mountain Guides rent Ouray Via Ferrata equipment to climbers. Each rental company has been a pleasure to work with. Email communications help to keep all the companies on the same track and it helps to disseminate the same information to the climbers.

To help boost the budget for the Ranger Program, a suggestion has been made to work with the rental agencies to create a "fee" or "donation" that would be applied to each rental package. This idea mirrors that of the Jeep Tours and Jeep Rental companies in Ouray. The Jeep companies self impose a fee that is then donated to the Six Basin's Fund. The Six Basin's Fund is then used for maintenance and infrastructure improvements within the UTV trail systems. A fee program for Via Ferrata Rentals could help to support the much needed OVF Rangers. This rental fee and guiding fees would help produce a sustainable funding model for the Ouray Via Ferrata.

Incident Reports

The OVF rangers had 15 climber assists this season and one full lanyard deployment. No major injuries were reported. In 2023 the Rangers completed twice as many assists as the 2022 season.

May 9

Dorothy Kammerer

A couple did the downstream route this AM. The woman panicked at the bridge crossing, starting then turning back several times. I climbed down to her and took her across the bridge using our lanyards only, with her in front and me behind her giving her encouragement/instructions. They went on to complete the route just fine as far as I could follow them. They had done the Telluride route before.

June 13

Dorothy Kammerer

Had a guided group of three—MT guide Jesse -on downstream route. One of the clients fell on the Mars wall just before rock ledge—flipped upside down during fall and stabilized in horizontal position. She could not get herself back on wall, and guide Jesse belayed her with Z-pulley to the rock ledge. I called down with megaphone to see if help was needed, and was told all was OK. A party of 2 experienced OVF individuals started the downstream route while the guided group of three were resting on the rock ledge. Jesse then informed me that his party was going to come back rather than continuing on route. I informed Jesse that 2 people had started the DS route and to wait to return until they had passed. I closed the DS route to new participants until Jesse's party had exited. No injury occurred to the person who fell.

June 21

Chris Hinkson

Helped a lady off the UpStream route.

A couple started the upstream route today. The lady made it up the ladder but could not get around the corner and up. She tried a few times then got my attention. She asked if she could come back, I had her do so. She was fine and made it to the bridge. She had trouble getting around the corner to get on the bridge. I had her wait there, got my gear on and went out to her. Talked with her, she was fine, she just didn't know how to make the move. I coached her through the move and on the bridge. She came out on her own. She was grateful for the assistance. All is good.

June 22

Chris Hinkson

Fall on Up Stream

Nate Disser (SJMG) was taking pictures at the upstream early exit when he saw a man sitting oddly halfway up the vertical climb past the early exit bridge. The man had fallen deploying his EAS lanyard. Nate called me, asked me to bring rescue equipment so he

could go out to help him down. I brought Nate the equipment and stood by if there were any need for more assistance.

Ruth (Mountain Rescue) called me wanting information on the situation. The man had called 911.

Nate lowered the man down to a level spot and then assisted him to and out the exit. The man said he was reaching for the next hold slipped and fell. He fell about 10/15 feet. He has scrapes on his thigh and calf. He was a little shaky, but able to walk out on his own.

I called Ruth back letting her know the man did not need Mountain Rescue s assistance.

June 22

Nate Disser

This afternoon at approximately 12:30 pm I went up to the OVF entrance in order to capture a little extra drone footage for the upstream route video highlight. I met Ranger Hinkson at the entrance, captured a bit of footage there, then headed upstream to the Grip Strut bridge exit where I was intending to capture the additional footage needed.

When I arrived at that spot I noticed a male in a red shirt paused about 1/3 to 1/2 way up the steep climb after the bridge. It seemed like he was just resting and as I was planning to get footage of that portion of the route specifically I thought I would wait to let him pass through that section. After about 5 minutes he had not moved so I called out to ask if he was OK. At this point he indicated that he had fallen, was hurt, and had deployed his lanyard. I called Ranger Hinkson immediately to see if she could bring me a rescue kit from the ranger shack, which she did quite quickly. I communicated to the gentleman to stay where he was and that I would come to get him and assist him off the route.

Given his proximity to the grip strut bridge I assessed that it would be best to lower him down to the river where there was a nice little beach and flat landing area where he would not need to be clipped to the VF cable. I attached him to a climbing rope, then lowered him with a munter and hands free back up. I kept him on the rope attached to me as I descended the route back to the horizontal traverse leading back to the grip strut bridge. I had him walk along the river beach and then belayed him back up to the VF cable where I re-attached him with his lanyard and then guided him back up to the bridge and across keeping him tied into the rope as well, mostly for his mental security at that point.

We reached the other side and Ranger Hinkson had him sit on the logs there at the entrance/exit. He was obviously relieved and very thankful. He had initiated OM rescue

via 911 but Chris was able to stand them down appropriately. He ended up with some very noticeable abrasions, cuts, and deep scrapes and was very shaken up. He described falling approximately 15-20 feet in total.

He did have a partner with him and she was a good ways ahead of him on the route so was unable to help him at any point. She eventually climbed back to the bridge and exited with us.

I think it's very important to reinforce to people doing the upstream route that it is substantially more difficult than the downstream route with only 1 exit and mandatory rock climbing moves and good fitness required. Additionally, the heat from the afternoon sun clearly was a contributing factor to his fatigue and energy levels.

If any further clarification is required please let me know.





July 1

Josh Bailey, Irene Karten

Irene was climbing the route to perform a sweep. Irene found the climber. No one was injured but he had popped a few inches of stitching on his lanyard. I got on the Via at 4:00pm, gave the climber a new lanyard to use, and a belay through the second early exit. Irene and I wrapped up with the rescue around 6:00 pm.

July 6

Chris Hinkson

Had a lady fall about 5 feet just past the first passing zone today. Jake from SJMG was guiding a group just in front of her when she fell. He checked on her to see if she needed help. They both told me things were ok. She was going to exit out at the first bale out point. She did not deploy her lanyard.

July 25

Dorothy Kammerer

Report of incident on downstream router OVF:

Chad with MT had a group of 3 women, a daughter with her mom and aunt. Chad warned me that he didn't think the mother could do it, had discussed extensively with the group this possibility, but they wanted to try to do the VF. They made it over the bridge, and started on the Mars Wall.

At this point, a large guided group with BC arrived with Alex and Nico as guides. They were made aware of the situation and to hold off starting.

I saw that in the middle of the Mars Wall, the mother started to come off of the route and Chad hooked her into a rung. I was watching closely, so was able to see this occur and Chad gave me the sign that they were turning around. Alex went down and helped the mom come back and I held the other groups (3 total groups). Two of Chad's party came all the way back out, but I had Chad and the mom wait at the passing zone just before the bridge, and allowed the BC group to start. Once the BC group was across the bridge, the mom and Chad returned and the other groups were allowed to begin. No one was injured.

July 26

Chris Hinkson

Had an older man get overheated and tired on the up stream route. Two guys from France found him sitting and resting, not doing well. He was past the first climb. They gave him food and some water and helped him through the rest of the route. One of the guys came and told me what was going on. I got food and water and went to meet with them. He was walking out with the help of another guy. We stopped a few times to have him drink and cool off with water. The older man did not want my help to take him out. The two guys took him to his car.

August 20

12:00pm

Dawn Glanc

A climber started the upstream route and had trouble crossing the initial 3-wire bridge. Once the climber got to the base of the Helix Ladder he was unable to continue the route. I had watched the climber so I knew there was no fall or injury. I asked if the climber wanted help, and they responded with a yes. I entered the route and lowered him to the Downstream Route. Once the climber and I were on the downstream route, we exited going the wrong way on the downstream route. The climber was uninjured.

August 23

Chris Hinkson

Had two people start the upstream route, they were at the bottom of the latter when I noticed the guy acting off. After a short time he started climbing the latter. He made it to the top and onto the ledge, he stopped and seemed in distress. That's when I saw him throw up. I got their attention and asked the guy to come back. He made down the latter and on the wall part way then started throwing up again. I put my gear on and went out to help him in. When I got to him he was very distraught and still wanting to throw up.

We got off the route and I had him stay with me till he was not shaking or throwing up. He was not sick, it was the height and the ledge, he was very distressed and I think that made his body react. He was very thankful for the help.

August 31

Chris Hinkson

I got a call from Nate Disser around 1:20 telling me he got a call from the Sheriff that a guy needed help. He was not hurt. The guy was around marker 6.4, almost out. I got eyes on him and asked if he needed help, yes. I got on the VF and made my way to him. He was with his wife. I made sure they were ok and they had water. I asked if he wanted me to lead him out on a rope, he said no. He was fatigued and didn't like being on the edge under the bridge. I had him stay close talking him through. The couple were very thankful and asked if they did the right thing, I told them absolutely.

September 11

Dorothy Kammerer

a person who had just completed the upstream OVF reported that she had witnessed somebody fall on the US OVF. She had asked him if he was OK, and he had responded that he was fine, and that a hold had broken, causing a fall. I walked upstream and checked on him—he told me it was more of a sideways “slip” after the foothold had broken off an ascending traverse, that he was fine, and did not deploy the EAS. He and his partner finished the route without incident.

September 15

Josh Bailey

Last Friday I had a guest at the Via Ferrata that was very unhappy I wouldn't let him on the route with an old Petzl Zyper Y lanyard. He was especially angry because he swears he did the OVF with this lanyard in 2021, also because it is a Petzl made Via Ferrata specific lanyard. I told him it had to be a current EN958 certification, that his lanyard is too old, and the “rope brake” system was found to be dangerous. He wouldn't let me look at his lanyard tag and decided I was vastly incompetent for not “knowing his lanyard was legitimate”. He cursed a lot and threatened to go on the route anyway (asked if I would call the police). I just said “Man do you really want to be the first person to push it that far? I don't create the rules I'm just here to help keep people safe”. So he finally left.

This is the second time this year I've had an upset guest with an old “rope brake” style via Ferrata lanyard. From past research I knew these lanyards had been deemed unsafe and none have been manufactured since like 2012ish (so they are all technically too old for use anyway). After last Friday I went down the rabbit hole and found some

more info, basically there were a handful of Via Ferrata lanyard recalls around 2012 (for the rope style brake, and for an elastic webbing style many had that wore out too quickly). It's tricky because they were all manufactured to the EN 958 standard of the time, and they are all technically too old for use but we definitely let a lot of people in with gear over 10 years old.. The rope brake system definitely stops working with age and is easy to spot, but the other old stitched webbing elastic styles that were recalled look like current lanyards. Maybe it would be good to have some safety/recall info about lanyards at the shack? Here's some of the info I found..

<https://www.planetmountain.com/en/news/gear/uiaa-press-release-second-wave-of-via-ferrata-set-recalls-within-six-months.html>

<https://theuiaa.org/safety/safety-standards/recalls/>

<http://files.ctctcdn.com/2d473d06201/50001b84-7146-43fc-a300-61bf4f9c826d.pdf>

<https://www.manualslib.com/manual/2578551/Petzl-Zyper-Y.html#manual>

September 16

1:30 pm

Dawn Glanc

I received a call from Ranger Irene. She was reporting that her friend could not complete the last few cables on the Upstream Climb. I was the only ranger on duty so I asked the climbers to wait at the entrance and keep the route closed until my backup arrived. Luckily Ranger Irene was able to tend to the entrance as I completed the climber assist. I made contact with the climber and determined they had no injuries. I set up an anchor and used a 3:1 pulley system to help assist the climber up the cables.

September 20

Chris Hinkson

Got a call from the Sheriff's department that a climber exited the 2nd bailout downstream and could not find her way, was lost and on a cliff. I looked for her on the edge as I walked out. Did not see her so I went up the ice park trail looking for her on the VF side and the Highway side. Could not find her, called the Sheriff's department back to let them know I did not find her. They had her number, sent her a text to get more info. 10 minutes later I got a call back. She made it out and was ok.

***Please see Appendix A for the complete monthly ranger report.**

Rule Change: Only guides can assist/ belay underweight or overweight climbers

Each year the Friends of the Ouray Via Ferrata Board and Ranger staff have evolved operations to accommodate climber needs and ensure the highest level of safety requirements are met for all participants. All decisions are based on data and ranger documentation. Over the past three seasons the complexities of belaying on the VF have shown the need for professional training in order to meet manufactures' requirements regarding weight limitations of Via Ferrata lanyards.

Beginning on May 1, 2023 the Ouray Via Ferrata will no longer allow participants outside of the manufactures weight requirements (88lbs-265lbs/40kg-120kg) to climb the Upstream or the Downstream Route without a professional guide using appropriate belay techniques in conjunction with a VF lanyard. This rule change no longer allows recreational parties to belay participants under 88 lbs or over 265lbs. Unguided participants who are outside of the manufacturers' weight requirements will not be allowed to access the Via Ferrata, and they will be denied entry by the OVF Rangers.

The Ouray Via Ferrata website lists the permitted guide services available for hire.

This rule change has been communicated via direct email to The City of Ouray, Visit Ouray, Gear Rental Agencies, Guide Services, Sponsors and other stakeholders. The public was notified using Instagram, Facebook and the Ouray Via Ferrata Website. The City of Ouray, Visit Ouray, all sponsors, guide services, gear rental agencies, as well as surrounding climbing coalitions, outdoor clubs and surrounding Chamber of Commerce were tagged in the social media posts announcing the rule change. The tag will allow the instagram user to see the post in their messages.

Overall the rule change was not an issue at the OVF. The rule change helped the OVF Routes to flow smoothly on busy days. No parents were clogging up the route with belays. The rule change did cause some problems for the OVF Ranger because a few families were denied entry due to an underweight child.

OVF Improvements Made by the Rangers

- Conducted Ranger training
- Removed old tree stump from entrance area
- Rock wall improvements around ranger shack area

- Trail improvement from perimeter trail to penstock includes rock wall construction and vegetation removal
- Trail improvement from penstock to route entrances includes rock wall construction
- Removed vegetation from the Upstream route.
- Removed refuge from around the shack and Perimeter Trail
- Cleaned signs and swept anchor pads

OVF Suggestions/improvements for 2024

The rangers would like to help facilitate the following improvements in the 2024 OVF season:

1. Install a solar panel at the shack. This way the shack can have a light, heat and a charging station for electronics.
2. Get a tablet for the shack. The rangers perform all duties on their phones. This includes all data entry and reporting. This tablet can live at the shack.
3. Improve the practice area. This includes finishing the bench and trail work.
4. Improve the beach. This includes a bench, trail work, vegetation removal and signage about the river fluctuations.
5. Build a bathroom
6. Signage for new perimeter trail intersections.
7. Kiosk on CR361(perhaps by the kids wall) to educate users about the penstock,the perimeter trail, OVF access and the ice park.
8. Replace wood on the two benches in the OVF entrance area.
9. Change signage on the Helix Ladder to “1 climber at a time”. The ladder has proven to be a place of challenge for climbers.
10. Change signage on Upstream 3-wire bridge to “1 climber at a time”
11. Replace Hours of operation sign on the entrance kiosk.

12. Hire more rangers specifically for weekends and holidays.
13. Get another solar light for the ranger shack
14. Get gravel or wood chips for the entrance trail, especially around the shack to keep the dust down
15. Early exit trails on both OVF routes need to be improved and signed to guide climbers back to the parking area
16. Change rules to make a closed toe shoe mandatory
17. Change the google form used to collect data. Make changes to reflect multiple places a group is from.
18. The OVF brochure needs to be updated. Entrances and exits should be well marked.
19. Update OVF entrance signage to reflect the weight limit rule change.
 - Gear Questions for Gear Manufacturers
 - Is a caving harness adequate to catch fall on the OVF?
 - Is a canyoning harness adequate to catch fall on the OVF?
 - Is a Rescue/Rope Access harness adequate to catch fall on the OVF?
 - What is considered a deployment of the lanyard system?
 - What is the OVF policy on gear recalls?
 - Rangers discussed the Zephyr Y lanyard system and agreed to not allow the lanyard style on the OVF due to the fact that the system is outdated gear that was recalled.

Appendix A 2022 Ranger Reports

*Names of climbers have been redacted for privacy.

May 2023

Friends of Ouray Via Ferrata

Ouray Via Ferrata Ranger Report

Submitted by: Dawn Glanc, Head Ranger

Summary:

The Ouray Via Ferrata opened on Saturday May 6. The opening was delayed by the maintained crew and by lingering ice and snow. The maintenance crew installed the cable bridges and finished maintenance on May 5. May 11 the OVF closed due to snow and Rain. May 31 the OVF was closed from 8:00am-12:30pm due to rain.

The Memorial Day weekend numbers were up from 2022. In 2022 only 315 climbers came to the OVF over the Holiday weekend. Rain on Sunday of the 2022 holiday kept numbers down. In 2023, the weather was great and the climbers came out in high numbers. There was only one ranger on duty over the holiday weekend because there was not enough staff to cover the shifts. The holiday traffic was way too high for one ranger to manage.

Climber Data Summary:

Month	Number of Climbers	Number of Guides	Total Climbers
May	862	41	903
Holiday Information			
Holiday	Date	Number of Climbers	
Memorial Day	5/26	40	

Memorial Day	5/27	118	
Memorial Day	5/28	165	
Memorial Day	5/29	72	
	Total Climbers	395	
	Total Guides	17	

Ranger Reports:

**May 7
Dawn Glanc**

Cleaned out the ranger shack, swept the entrance trail slab, swept the anchor pads, and cleaned up micro trash around the shack and entrance kiosks. Pat Ormond removed the stump on the entrance trail.



May 9

Dorothy Kammerer

Two things:

- 1). There is a tree that has fallen across the downstream route near the start of the Mars Wall. One must step over it and then immediately down to get to the rungs. It's not really an obstacle at the moment, but may become a hazard as the summer progresses and it dries out. I would be concerned if people tried to step on it or pulled on it.
- 2). A couple did the downstream route this AM. The woman panicked at the bridge crossing, starting then turning back several times. I climbed down to her and took her across the bridge using our lanyards only, with her in front and me behind her giving her encouragement/instructions. They went on to complete the route just fine as far as I could follow them. They had done the Telluride route before.

May 10

Chris Hinkson

1. Had a few guys working along/on the big pipe for the ice park today.
2. Had someone come by today to work on the camera.
3. Had a group on the cliffs at the first early exit doing rescue training. I was not notified.

May 10

Dawn Glanc

Mountain Trip held a guides training with 6 guides

May 16

Dawn Glanc

11:20 am

Rigging for Rescue held training across from the ranger station. I contacted the FOVF to get directions on how to handle the situation. The group is a party of 12. One group of 6 are across from the ranger station. The second group is just south along the top of the canyon. The second group is above the old dump gully. Both groups have the end of the ropes hanging in the talus field below the cliff band.



RFR group across from the Ranger Shack, and above OVF Downstream Route



Two RFR Groups above the Ouray Via Ferrata

1:30pm

Silas came out to the Ranger Shack to check out the scene. He has called the forest service to see what we can do to have RFR move away from the OVF.

May 17

Chris Hinkson

RFR did training today. They were across from the ranger shack. Two groups.

May 22

Dawn Glanc

We had a person climb the wrong way on the upstream route. I asked the climber why they started from the wrong entrance and they claimed ignorance to the starting point. He said the website was too confusing. I explained the OVF guidelines for the routes and other general operations of the area. He apologized and then went on the downstream route. He headed in the proper direction.

I walked to the Upstream Early Exit point and noticed that the upstream early entrance was missing signage. I installed two signs at the Upstream Early Exit bridge.

I also hung up a few signs around the ranger/entrance area.



Installed the exit signage after the climber went the wrong way on the upstream route.

May 23, 2023

Dawn Glanc

Swept out the ranger shack, swept the anchor pads on the Upstream entrance trail, and I removed some rocks from the area around the first three cables of the Downstream Route.

I updated the instagram to reflect the current rules of the OVF. I removed any old information about belaying children.

The City of Ouray's Tourism Director reached out to me and asked that I include the following statement on any social media post that the city is a collaborator on.

Beginning on May 1, 2023 the Ouray Via Ferrata will no longer allow participants outside of the manufactures weight requirements (88lbs-265lbs/40kg-120kg) to climb the Upstream or the Downstream Route without a professional guide using appropriate

belay techniques in conjunction with a VF lanyard. This rule change no longer allows recreational parties to belay participants under 88 lbs or over 265lbs. Unguided participants who are outside of the manufacturers' weight requirements will not be allowed to access the Via Ferrata, and they will be denied entry by the OVF Rangers.

This statement will only be applied to instagram posts that the city receives from the OVF as a collaborator.

May 30

Dorothy Kammerer

I am wondering if we are going to get a toilet out here?? It would be really nice to have one because many people who do the route ask about a toilet then go pee in the trees a little ways from the shack.....could get gross if it doesn't rain. And, on a personal note, I HATE to carry out my waste in a baggie—really disgusting

I noticed a porta-potty in the construction area and wondered if I could use that? I'm not sure if that would be allowed because it's a "hard hat" area, although I could wear my climbing helmet!!

I had a group of 15 come through yesterday—they were from the USAF and had two "guides" with them. The "guides" weren't from any of the services on our list, but they said they had called/communicated with someone and received permission so I let them go through.

Note: this group spoke with Mark and received permission.

May 31

Chris Hinkson

The construction crew has blocked off the trail looking down at the VF. I like to walk that on my way in and out to check the route and to check on people. Could I keep doing that or is there a better way to walk it?

Dawn Glanc responded

Suggestion is to use the trail at her own risk. Use the trail if needed and keep any construction work at a distance.

June OVF Ranger Report

June 2023

Submitted by: Dawn Glanc

The Ouray Via Ferrata Saw a total of 2252 climbers in the month of June. This has been the busiest June ever at the OVF. The rangers saw 400 more climbers than the year prior. The weather closed the OVF until noon on June 2 and 17.

The Ouray Via Ferrata had some closures in June due to the construction project for the City Of Ouray Water Treatment Facility. The construction crew had the blasting project scheduled for Monday and Wednesdays in June. The blasting project occurred above the Via Ferrata downstream route. The blasting caused the perimeter trail/OVF access trail to close 30 minutes prior to the blast. The trail remained closed until the all clear was given.

Joe Coleman, Ouray Public Works Director, kept in direct phone and email communications each day of the blast. Email and text notifications were sent to all permitted guide services, Ouray Visitor Center and the gear rental agencies. A social media post was made to Instagram each day the blasts occurred. All stakeholders were tagged in the post.

The blasting did not close the OVF because the safety director did not feel the OVF had to close. This plan stayed in effect until June 21 when guides from Mountain Trip and Basecamp reported near misses from rockfall. The blasting safety protocol immediately changed to include closing the OVF.

Ranger Reports:

6/2

Dawn Glanc

OVF opened at noon due to the rain. An email and text were sent to all guide services, visitor center, city of Ouray, and gear rental agencies. A social media post was made to announce the closure and reopening.

6/2

San Juan Expeditions held a guide training on the OvF

6/5

Dawn Glanc

Sent an email request to the guide services and rental agencies to gather direct phone numbers to send information via text. All guide services and rental agencies responded. A call list has been assembled.

6/5

Dawn Glanc

Basecamp held a guides training on the OVF.

6/6

Dorothy Kammerer

Found toilet paper with a rock placed on top of it on the connecting trail between the perimeter and entry trail—picked it up using a doggie poop bag and will carry it out to dispose of it.

6/8

Chris Hinkson

It was reported to me this afternoon by a hiker that an elderly man was climbing without using his lanyards. She told me how dangerous that is and how upset she was to see that.

6/8

Chris Hinkson

I took the VF home today. The tree that has fallen needs to be cut out, it has become a hazard. It moves a lot and is cumbersome to get around. The donation box at the end of the route is not there.

*follow up- maintenance request was submitted to Clint Cook on 6/25. Requested the tree be removed.

6/10

Dawn Glanc

The city of Ouray will be blasting at the Water Treatment Facility Monday and Wednesday from 11:00-1:00pm. for the next three weeks. The perimeter trail, Sutton mine trailhead and CR361 will be closed for intervals during the timeframe. OVF will remain open. An email and text message were sent to the guide services, visitor center and rental agencies.

6/12

Dawn Glanc

Rigging for Rescue sent an email alerting us of a training course they were running 6/12-15

6/13

Dorothy Kammerer

Had a guided group of three—MT guide Jesse -on downstream route. One of the clients fell on the Mars wall just before rock ledge—flipped upside down during fall and stabilized in horizontal position. She could not get herself back on wall, and guide Jesse belayed her with Z-pulley to the rock ledge. I called down with megaphone to see if help was needed, and was told all was OK. A party of 2 experienced OVF individuals started the downstream route while the guided group of three were resting on the rock ledge. Jesse then informed me that his party was going to come back rather than continuing on route. I informed Jesse that 2 people had started the DS route and to wait to return until they had passed. I closed the DS route to new participants until Jesse's party had exited. No injury occurred to the person who fell.

6/14

Dawn Glanc

Hired a new Ranger. This person will be able to help 3 days a week. The OVF Ranger staff roster is still short. The current staff will have a hard time covering the July demand. I have also reached out to San Juan Mountain Guides to get help covering the July holiday and the July weekends. San Juan Mountain Guides will help delegate their staff to help fill the schedule gaps.

6/17

Dawn Glanc

OVF was closed until noon due to the rain. An email and text were sent to all guide services, visitor center, city of Ouray, and gear rental agencies. A social media post was made to announce the closure and reopening.

6/19

Dawn Glanc

San Juan Mountain Guides held a training session on the OVF.

6/21

Chris Hinkson

Helped a lady off the UpStream route.

A couple started the upstream route today. The lady made it up the ladder but could not get around the corner and up. She tried a few times then got my attention. She asked if she could come back, I had her do so. She was fine and made it to the bridge. She had trouble getting around the corner to get on the bridge. I had her wait there, got my gear on and went out to her. Talked with her, she was fine, she just didn't know how to make the move. I coached her through the move and on the bridge. She came out on her own. She was grateful for the assistance. All is good.

Parent belay.

I had a family with an underweight child today. The father (a certified guide from out of town) told me he talked with someone from the board two weeks ago saying he could belay his child using a short rope. He could not remember who he talked to. I called Mark and Nate. Nate responded back to me, I told Nate the situation and Nate was able to talk with the father. Nate told me the father could go on but he had to also have a rope not just the short rope. The father came back with the rope and did the belays well. The family took the first exit out. The little girl was not having fun. Screaming and crying.

6/21

Dawn Glanc

11:50am

Chad Peele from Mountain Trip called me just after the city blasted at the water facility project. He called to report that his party and a few parties around him were shelled by golf ball sized rocks during the blast. No injuries were reported. Just scared parties. Logan from Basecamp called and also reported rockfall just after the blast.

Todd from Mountain trip sent an email asking about the blasting project. He also reported Chad Peele's incident.

Chad Peele had a near miss yesterday as a result of the blasting project. Dawn, I think he called and notified you of the incident?

Do you all have any advice for us regarding the blasting project? As we're only up there when guiding, we have a much more limited sampling of information with which to try to identify the risks and manage our controls to them. What are you all seeing and/or doing?

Alan - in case you're not looped in - Chad reported the following:

"Today, my team was doing the down climb by the school room when the blast occurred. Golf ball sized rocks shotgunned all around us bouncing off the walls above and landing within feet of my team. No injuries but it truly could have been harmful. I'm not sure how to follow this up but I considered it a dangerous situation and definitely a near miss."

Blasting rock is a bit outside our historic wheelhouse, so any thoughts or advice would be deeply appreciated!

- I followed up with an email to Todd and the Mountain Trip Staff. I also called the office to clarify questions.
- Alan Cook followed up with an email to Todd
- I followed up on 6/24 by emailing public works director Joe Coleman and Silas Clark to report the incident. No further direction has been given.
- Blasting protocols are changed to include a closure of the OVF.

6/22

Chris Hinkson

Fall on Up Stream today (6-22-23)

Nate Disser (SJMG) was taking pictures at the upstream early exit when he saw a man sitting oddly halfway up the vertical climb past the early exit bridge. The man had fallen deploying his EAS lanyard. Nate called me, asked me to bring rescue equipment so he could go out to help him down. I brought Nate the equipment and stood by if there were any need for more assistance.

Ruth (Mountain Rescue) called me wanting information on the situation. The man had called 911.

Nate lowered the man down to a level spot and then assisted him to and out the exit. The man said he was reaching for the next hold slipped and fell. He fell about 10/15 feet. He has scrapes on his thigh and calf. He was a little shaky, but able to walk out on his own.

I called Ruth back letting her know the man did not need Mountain Rescue s assistance.

6/22

Nate Disser

This afternoon at approximately 12:30 pm I went up to the OVF entrance in order to capture a little extra drone footage for the upstream route video highlight. I met Ranger Hinkson at the entrance, captured a bit of footage there, then headed upstream to the Grip Strut bridge exit where I was intending to capture the additional footage needed.

When I arrived at that spot I noticed a male in a red shirt paused about 1/3 to 1/2 way up the steep climb after the bridge. It seemed like he was just resting and as I was planning to get footage of that portion of the route specifically I thought I would wait to let him pass through that section. After about 5 minutes he had not moved so I called out to ask if he was OK. At this point he indicated that he had fallen, was hurt, and had deployed his lanyard. I called Ranger Hinkson immediately to see if she could bring me a rescue kit from the ranger shack, which she did quite quickly. I communicated to the gentleman to stay where he was and that I would come to get him and assist him off the route.

Given his proximity to the grip strut bridge I assessed that it would be best to lower him down to the river where there was a nice little beach and flat landing area where he would not need to be clipped to the VF cable. I attached him to a climbing rope, then lowered him with a munter and hands free back up. I kept him on the rope attached to me as I descended the route back to the horizontal traverse leading back to the grip strut bridge. I had him walk along the river beach and then belayed him back up to the VF cable where I re-attached him with his lanyard and then guided him back up to the bridge and across keeping him tied into the rope as well, mostly for his mental security at that point.

We reached the other side and Ranger Hinkson had him sit on the logs there at the entrance/exit. He was obviously relieved and very thankful. He had initiated OM rescue via 911 but Chris was able to stand them down appropriately. He ended up with some very noticeable abrasions, cuts, and deep scrapes and was very shaken up. He described falling approximately 15-20 feet in total.

He did have a partner with him and she was a good ways ahead of him on the route so was unable to help him at any point. She eventually climbed back to the bridge and exited with us.

I think it's very important to reinforce to people doing the upstream route that it is substantially more difficult than the downstream route with only 1 exit and mandatory rock climbing moves and good fitness required. Additionally, the heat from the afternoon sun clearly was a contributing factor to his fatigue and energy levels.

If any further clarification is required please let me know.





6/22

Nate Disser

Just as Ranger Hinkson and I were finishing up with the rescue of a red shirt guy, we observed 2 people climbing the upstream route in the wrong direction (downstream). We were able to communicate with them to cross the bridge and get off the route which they did.

When they exited the route we asked them why they were going that way and they said they couldn't find the entrance to the OVF and somehow landed at the exit of the Upstream route in Deep South, then proceeded on the route incorrectly downstream. They said that our signage was poor and they couldn't figure out where to go, to which we both responded with mild incredulity.

I walked up to the exit of the upstream route to observe our signage and took the attached picture. My only advice will be to put an additional sign on that exit point that clearly states "Wrong Way Exit Only" or something to that effect. Mark has done a great job getting lots of signage for both routes so maybe we have some more of these types of signs laying around?



Follow up on 6/22

Mark and Nate chatted briefly about this yesterday afternoon. He was going to take a look to see if we perhaps had one laying around that would suffice.

6/24

Dawn Glanc

I called Mesa State in Grand Junction to be sure they knew about the weight limit at the OVF. As a rental agency they will no longer rent to people outside of the weight parameters.

6/26

Dorothy Kammerer

I entered all of 6/24 and 6/25 into the database.

I picked up a few items of trash around the OVF entrance area/around the shack (napkin and knife)

I had a man bring 2 of his children to be weighed as he had read the requirements on line—both were under 88# which he suspected so no drama—YEAH!!

All went smoothly with the closure today for the blasting. The guided party of 4 took the early exit promptly at 1100, and the single person who got on the route at 10:00 took the 2nd exit—I was able to see both parties when I did the sweep at 11:00am. Climbers used the bail routes. Several parties came during the closure and then returned after 1 PM.

I made a sign when I did the sweep that the down stream route was closed for blasting and left it on the bench (along with instructions to sign in for the upstream route for experienced persons only). I will leave it out for Chris to see for Wednesday.

June 27, 2023

Dorothy Kammerer

I just had a party of 3 doing the downstream route. Despite being instructed to stay clipped in at all times, when they arrived at the flat area with the tree in the middle of Stairway to Heaven, 2 of them unclipped to get into the shade to rest. I called over on the bullhorn informing them they had to stay clipped in at all times and they complied.

FOVF Ranger Report

July 2023

Submitted by Dawn Glanc

The Ouray Via Ferrata is the busiest it has ever been. The 2023 season started slow, but June and July were the busiest on record.

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Month				
May	289	1035	966	710
June	1620	1763	1846	2252
July	2387	2867	2669	2956
Totals	4296	5665	5481	5918

The July fourth holiday was extremely busy. The ranger staff was increased to Three rangers per shift to handle the holiday crowds. In 2022 the daily average over the holiday weekend was 131 climbers per day. In 2023, the average number of climbers per day increased to 165 climbers per day.

	Rec Climbers	Guides	Total Climbers and Guides
Friday, June 30	105	9	114
Saturday July 1	175	12	187
Sunday July 2	174	6	180
Monday July 3	174	8	182
Total	628	35	663

The ranger staff was short due to vacations. San Juan Mountain Guides sent guide staff and office personnel to help cover the shifts. The Ouray Via Ferrata would not have operated safely without the help of San Juan Mountain Guides and their staff.

Communication and internet connection is a big problem for the rangers on the weekend. On a busy day, the rangers lose the ability to send a text, make a phone call, or use the internet.

This problem will need to be addressed. A lack of communication is a real safety risk for the OVF.

The blasting project for the city continued through July 17. Each Monday and Wednesday Public Works Director, Joe Coleman, and I would communicate about the blast plan and closures. The Ranger on duty was in direct contact with Joe Coleman. Before the blast the OVF ranger would clear the downstream route and close the route to any new traffic. The ranger confirmed with Joe that the route was clear. Joe then gave the ranger the all clear when the OVF could reopen.

The guide services, gear rental agencies and the visitor center were alerted to the closure via email and text. The public was informed through social media.

Ranger Reports

July 1

Josh Bailey, Irene Karten

Irene was climbing the route to perform a sweep. Irene found the climber. No one was injured but he had popped a few inches of stitching on his lanyard. I got on the Via at 4:00pm, gave the climber a new lanyard to use, and a belay through the second early exit. Irene and I wrapped up with the rescue around 6:00 pm.

July 6

Chris Hinkson

Had a lady fall about 5 feet just past the first passing zone today. Jake from SJMG was guiding a group just in front of her when she fell. He checked on her to see if she needed help. They both told me things were ok. She was going to exit out at the first bale out point. She did not deploy her lanyard.

July 7

Chris Hinkson

I took the book home Wednesday and entered the data from the 1 thru 5. I can not enter today's data due to no internet. It just keeps spinning.

July 17

Dawn Glanc

A complaint came in to the OVF website

Today was my first time on any via ferrata. I went with my husband, who has been on this and several other routes, and two young friends who were also going for the first time.

Immediately upon arriving at the beginning we were accosted by an older blonde woman who did not like my husband's chacos (his normal choice). She told him she could not allow him to go through the route with them. They were the only shoes he brought and we live in Palisade. Luckily there was a young man also checking visitors in and he interjected that chacos are good, durable and secure shoes which he has allowed without issue.

We continued to have our gear inspected by this man and proceeded to the route.

The downstream route was closed due to blasting, which never occurred, so we used the upstream route.

Soon after we were on the route the blonde woman started yelling various instructions to us through a bullhorn. She continued yelling several times, telling us we should take the early exit and not to have 2 people on the ladder, even though the sign on the route clearly says 2 max on the ladder. I was in the lead in our group and on the ladder as she continued to yell many times at us. As a new person, I found this extremely unsettling. Concentration is very important for parts of this activity, as you are aware, and it was terrible to experience this for me. I also feel she was discriminating against me because of my age, I'm not young. Either way this behavior needs to be reported to you because it was very disruptive to me and my concentration. Everyone who is willing to take on this challenge should be equally respected and even those with less ability and experience should not be badgered. Thank you

- I followed up with an email:

Thank you for your feedback. Your comments are valued. I am sorry to hear about your experience at the Ouray Via Ferrata. As the head Ranger I will look into the incident and make corrections where they are necessary.

July 25

Dorothy Kammerer

Report of incident on downstream router OVF:

Chad with MT had a group of 3 women, a daughter with her mom and aunt. Chad warned me that he didn't think the mother could do it, had discussed extensively with the group this possibility, but they wanted to try to do the VF. They made it over the bridge, and started on the Mars Wall.

At this point, a large guided group with BC arrived with Alex and Nico as guides. They were made aware of the situation and to hold off starting.

I saw that in the middle of the Mars Wall, the mother started to come off of the route and Chad hooked her into a rung. I was watching closely, so was able to see this occur and Chad gave me the sign that they were turning around. Alex went down and helped the mom come back and I held the other groups (3 total groups). Two of Chad's party came all the way back out, but I had Chad and the mom wait at the passing zone just before the bridge, and allowed the BC group to start. Once the BC group was across the bridge, the mom and Chad returned and the other groups were allowed to begin. No one was injured.

July 26

Chris Hinkson

Called John (hydro plant) today, there is a big leak at the stairs going up the trail.

July 26

Chris Hinkson

Had an older man get overheated and tired on the up stream route. Two guys from France found him sitting and resting, not doing well. He was past the first climb. They gave him food and some water and helped him through the rest of the route. One of the guys came and told me what was going on. I got food and water and went to meet with them. He was walking out with the help of another guy. We stopped a few times to have him drink and cool off with water. The older man did not want my help to take him out. The two guys took him to his car.

FOVF Ranger Report

August 2023

Submitted by Dawn Glanc

The Ouray Via Ferrata continues to be busy. The lack of a monsoon kept the OVF open each day and it kept the numbers up this summer. The attached chart shows the steady increase of climbers in 2023.

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Month				
May	289	1035	966	710
June	1620	1763	1846	2252
July	2387	2867	2669	2956
August	2110	2144	2047	2553

The Ouray Via Ferrata was closed on August 22 until 11:00 am due to the Penstock Leak. The pipe burst sometime in the morning before 7:00am. The OVF Ranger reported the burst around 8:00 am and closed the Downstream Route until an inspection could occur. Clint Cook inspected the Downstream route because it was blasted by the penstock water for more than an hour. After a thorough inspection, the route was reopened.

Ranger Report

8/2

Dawn Glanc

2 Email Communications from Rigging for Rescue.

The seminar will be training above the downstream route (New Funtier area) this afternoon and tomorrow.

Best wishes,

Tres Barbatelli

[Rigging for Rescue](#), LLC

1900 Main St. Unit 6A, P.O. Box 745

Ouray, CO 81427-0745

970.325.4474

On Wed, Aug 2, 2023, 9:40 AM Rigging for Rescue <info@riggingforrescue.com> wrote:

Greetings,

This week Josh Vincent and Jared Vilhauer are Instructing a seminar and will possibly be training in the gorge. If there are any concerns, please reach out to me directly at 970.325.4474, thank you.

Best wishes,

Tres Barbatelli

[Rigging for Rescue](#), LLC

1900 Main St. Unit 6A, P.O. Box 745

Ouray, CO 81427-0745

970.325.4474

8/7

Dorothy Kammerer

A man in a group of 5 was carrying a VERY long “selfie stick”. I observed him on the level area in between the Stairway to Heaven vertical climbs and he was completely unclipped, standing near the edge of the ledge with the selfie stick extended about 3 feet taking photos. I called over to him on the megaphone to clip in, and he turned his back so I couldn’t see what he was doing, ignoring me. He started to climb the 2nd vertical section without clipping in and I called over on the megaphone and told him he needed to clip in “right now” and he finally complied. He remained clipped in as far as I could tell after that but was quickly out of sight.

8/7

Dorothy Kammerer

I just had 2 climbers who had Via Ferrata lanyards, but the carabiners onto the cable were NONLOCKING. They have done the route several times before and were not told they needed to have lockers. I told them to use them opposite/opposed when on vertical sections and to replace them with self-lockers, but wanted to check with you in the future if this happens again.....

Dawn Glanc Response: Dorothy did the right thing But I think the climbers may have replaced the manufacturer carabiner with another non locking carabiner. Heads up on

this issue to be sure the carabiners are the dual action locking carabiners supplied by the lanyard manufacturer.

8/17

Mark Luppenlatz

I picked up the new signs for the exit of the upstream route (exit only) and direction signs for the route past the grip strut bridge

8/17

Dawn Glanc

Email communication from Rigging For Rescue

Thu, Aug 17,
10:49 AM

Rigging for Rescue

<info@riggingforrescue.com>

Greetings,

RfR will be practicing some skills with a military crew in the South Park area (on the ice park side, not VF side). They should be clear out of the way of any VF traffic. Just wanted to inform you that they will be there today and possibly tomorrow, thanks.

Best wishes,

Tres Barbatelli

[Rigging for Rescue](#), LLC

1900 Main St. Unit 6A, P.O. Box 745

Ouray, CO 81427-0745

970.325.4474

8/19

Clint Cook

I got the signs installed, and removed a pedal just above and downstream of the bridge on the Upstream route. It was in some rock that had become loose. I wasn't able to locate the loose rung reported by SVS. I'll have another look on Sunday. If there is a guided party headed that way today, it would be great to have them flag or tape the loose rung if they find it.

8/20

12:00pm

Dawn Glanc

A climber started the upstream route and had trouble crossing the initial 3-wire bridge. Once the climber got to the base of the Helix Ladder he was unable to continue the route. I had watched the climber so I knew there was no fall or injury. I asked if the climber wanted help, and they responded with a yes. I entered the route and lowered him to the Downstream Route. Once the climber and I were on the downstream route, we exited going the wrong way on the downstream route. The climber was uninjured.

8/22

Dorothy Kammerer

On my walk in just before 0800, I noticed that the Penstock pipe had ruptured, sending water spraying across the canyon and onto the downstream route just before the Sky Climb. I notified Dawn, who notified all the guide companies, as well as the Tourist Office that the DS route was closed for the above reason. John at the hydro plant was called, and he sent someone to turn off the water at the level of the dam. Due to the very impressive amount of water spraying onto the route, Clint Cook inspected the route to ensure there was no damage. We were able to open up the downstream route around 1015. I let a guided group (Steven VanSickle with SJMG) get on the route around 1000, telling him to exit at the 2nd bailout point. Once I heard from Clint that the route was safe, I was able to notify Steven that he could do the entire route.

The pipe rupture was repaired that day, and the water was not turned on until after the OVF closed. At 3 PM, I instructed all parties on the downstream route to exit at the 2nd early exit as I was unsure when after 4 PM the water would get turned back on again and left a note attached to the DS gate that the route was closed. {I attempted to contact John to find out when he was going to turn the water back on, but he didn't answer as he was working on the pipe and couldn't hear his phone—he LMK about 3:45 that he was going to turn the water back on after 5 PM}

The upstream route was closed until 1100 due to considerable overnight rain and continued morning rain.

8/23

Chris Hinkson

Had two people start the upstream route, they were at the bottom of the latter when I noticed the guy acting off. After a short time he started climbing the latter. He made it to the top and onto the ledge, he stopped and seemed in distress. That's when I saw him throw up. I got their attention and asked the guy to come back. He made down the latter and on the wall part way then started throwing up again. I put my gear on and went out to help him in. When I got to him he was very distraught and still wanting to throw up. We got off the route and I had him stay with me till he was not shaking or throwing up. He was not sick, it was the height and the ledge, he was very distressed and I think that made his body react. He was very thankful for the help.

8/27

Irene Karten

Saturday was super busy with large groups. It started sprinkling around 1:30, and progressively got bad enough we encouraged people to exit the routes. We closed the Via at 3:00 due to the downpour.

8/27

Irene Karten

We had a GoPro rescue on Saturday. I ask people to put any items that are not secured by a biner or an elastic cord on a backpack to put them inside their backpack. Also phones should be secured with a lanyard or in a zipped pocket.

The person was in a large group of 12. I did go through letting this group know to do this. He had his GoPro short stick stuck in his shoulder strap, but it wasn't secured with anything and when he ducked under the cable bridge it fell out. Jake was able to belay down with a rope and retrieve it. Perhaps a social media message to let people know to secure all items in outer pockets or put them inside their pack?

Dawn Glanc Response: A social media post was made to remind climbers to secure all phones, cameras and water bottles to the pack.

8/30

Dawn Glanc

Email communication from Rigging for Rescue

Wed, Aug 30,

9:33 AM

Rigging for Rescue

<info@riggingforrescue.com>

Greetings,

RfR has two concurrent seminars running this week and at least one of those groups plan on practicing skills in the gorge. Sorry I can't be more specific at this time, if I get more info from the Instructors I'll pass it along. Thank you.

Best wishes,

Tres Barbatelli

[Rigging for Rescue](#), LLC

1900 Main St. Unit 6A, P.O. Box 745

Ouray, CO 81427-0745

970.325.4474

Wed, Aug 30,

10:00 AM

Rigging for Rescue

<info@riggingforrescue.com>

Just got an update, our Fundamentals seminar will be practicing skills in the South Park area today.

Best wishes,

Tres Barbatelli

[Rigging for Rescue](#), LLC

1900 Main St. Unit 6A, P.O. Box 745

Ouray, CO 81427-0745

970.325.4474

8/31

Chris Hinkson

I had the trail group people here this morning on the VF and noticed that some of them are removing both lanyards at the same time. After reminding them one at a time, I caught one guy removing both when he didn't think I saw him.

Should we send something out to them?

Dawn Glanc Response: I sent a text to Hale, he is the trail group leader in question. I reminded all trail members that they must stay clipped into the OVF at all times.

8/31

Chris Hinkson

I got a call from Nate Disser around 1:20 telling me he got a call from the Sheriff that a guy needed help. He was not hurt. The guy was around marker 6.4, almost out.

I got eyes on him and asked if he needed help, yes. I got on the VF and made my way to him. He was with his wife. I made sure they were ok and they had water. I asked if he wanted me to lead him out on a rope, he said no. He was fatigued and didn't like being on the edge under the bridge. I had him stay close talking him through. The couple were very thankful and asked if they did the right thing, I told them absolutely.

FOVF Ranger Report

September 2023

Submitted by Dawn Glanc

The month of September was significantly busier than September of 2022. The OVF saw multiple Saturdays with close to 200 climbers each day. With one ranger on staff, it was chaotic.

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Month				
May	289	1035	966	710
June	1620	1763	1846	2252
July	2387	2867	2669	2956
August	2110	2144	2047	2553
September	1935	1971	1879	2460

Ranger Report

9/11

Dorothy Kammerer

a person who had just completed the upstream OVF reported that she had witnessed somebody fall on the US OVF. She had asked him if he was OK, and he had responded that he was fine, and that a hold had broken, causing a fall.

I walked upstream and checked on him—he told me it was more of a sideways “slip” after the foothold had broken off an ascending traverse, that he was fine, and did not deploy the EAS. He and his partner finished the route without incident.

9/14

Dawn Glanc

Email Communication from Rigging for Rescue

Thu, Sep 14,

9:46 AM

Rigging for Rescue

<info@riggingforrescue.com>

Greetings!

Josh Vincent & Xander Bianchi will be training in the gorge today. I will pass along more info when I have it, thank you!

Best wishes,

Tres Barbatelli

[Rigging for Rescue](#), LLC

1900 Main St. Unit 6A, P.O. Box 745

Ouray, CO 81427-0745

970.325.4474

Thu, Sep 14,
10:47 AM

Rigging for Rescue
<info@riggingforrescue.com>

They will be training across New Funtier above the downstream route. Thanks!

Best wishes,

Tres Barbatelli

[Rigging for Rescue](#), LLC

1900 Main St. Unit 6A, P.O. Box 745

Ouray, CO 81427-0745 970.325.4474

9/15

Josh Bailey

Last Friday I had a guest at the Via Ferrata that was very unhappy I wouldn't let him on the route with an old Petzl Zyper Y lanyard. He was especially angry because he swears he did the OVF with this lanyard in 2021, also because it is a Petzl made Via Ferrata specific lanyard. I told him it had to be a current EN958 certification, that his lanyard is too old, and the "rope brake" system was found to be dangerous. He wouldn't let me look at his lanyard tag and decided I was vastly incompetent for not "knowing his lanyard was legitimate". He cursed a lot and threatened to go on the route anyway (asked if I would call the police). I just said "Man do you really want to be the first person to push it that far? I don't create the rules I'm just here to help keep people safe". So he finally left.

This is the second time this year I've had an upset guest with an old "rope brake" style via Ferrata lanyard. From past research I knew these lanyards had been deemed unsafe and none have been manufactured since like 2012ish (so they are all technically too old for use anyway). After last Friday I went down the rabbit hole and found some more info, basically there were a handful of Via Ferrata lanyard recalls around 2012 (for the rope style brake, and for an elastic webbing style many had that wore out too quickly). It's tricky because they were all manufactured to the EN 958 standard of the time, and they are all technically too old for use but we definitely let a lot of people in with gear over 10 years old.. The rope brake system definitely stops working with age and is easy to spot, but the other old stitched webbing elastic styles that were recalled look like current lanyards. Maybe it would be good to have some safety/recall info about lanyards at the shack? Here's some of the info I found..

<https://www.planetmountain.com/en/news/gear/uiaa-press-release-second-wave-of-via-ferrata-set-recalls-within-six-months.html>

<https://theuiaa.org/safety/safety-standards/recalls/>

<http://files.ctctcdn.com/2d473d06201/50001b84-7146-43fc-a300-61bf4f9c826d.pdf>

<https://www.manualslib.com/manual/2578551/Petzl-Zyper-Y.html#manual>

Dawn Glanc Response:

Whoa. I am sorry that person was a jerk. We have never allowed this brake system on the route due to the recalls that occurred. It was easier to say no to the lanyard, than to look up each recall.

I agree with you 100% and I am very sorry you dealt with this. You can always give the climber a rental lanyard for free and use their lanyard as collateral. I would rather you give the lanyard rental for free than deal with this terrible treatment.

I will let the other rangers know of this situation so that we can all be united on our answer.

Josh Bailey Follow up:

I guess I knew about the rope brake system, but was surprised to see all the other normal stitched webbing type lanyards that were also recalled because of the way the elastic was built into the webbing in certain designs. (After a lady fell and broke both her lanyards). It's hard to find a lot of info but this UIAA doc has a list of the "elastic" lanyards recalled as well as the rope ones.. I found a picture of the Edelrid recall.

Oh and also there's the newer recalls we know about for sticky carabiners..

And good call on just loaning out a lanyard, I think I've done that before. I was surprised the anger was so directed at me I guess I didn't think of it.

<http://files.ctctcdn.com/2d473d06201/50001b84-7146-43fc-a300-61bf4f9c826d.pdf>

9/16

1:30 pm

Dawn Glanc

I received a call from Ranger Irene. She was reporting that her friend could not complete the last few cables on the Upstream Climb. I was the only ranger on duty so I asked the climbers to wait at the entrance and keep the route closed until my backup arrived. Luckily Ranger Irene was able to tend to the entrance as I completed the climber assist. I made contact with the climber and determined they had no injuries. I set up an anchor and used a 3:1 pulley system to help assist the climber up the cables.

9/19

Dawn Glanc

Email communication from Rigging for Rescue

Tue, Sep 19,

11:45 AM

Rigging for Rescue

<info@riggingforrescue.com>

Greetings!

Craig Holm and Dave Weber are instructing a Patient Care seminar this week and will be training in the gorge. Craig plans to conduct almost all training drills on the West side of the gorge (opposite of Via routes, ice park side), just FYI. Thanks!

Best wishes,

Tres Barbatelli

[Rigging for Rescue](#), LLC

1900 Main St. Unit 6A, P.O. Box 745

Ouray, CO 81427-0745

970.325.4474

9/19

Dorothy Kammerer

I caught a guy today unclipping from the cable. Turns out he went down and got these glasses and brought them back to me. I have contacted the person who lost them and they're very happy to get them back.

Happy ending!

9/20

Chris Hinkson

Got a call from the Sheriff's department that a climber exited the 2nd bailout downstream and could not find her way, was lost and on a cliff. I looked for her on the edge as I walked out. Did not see her so I went up the ice park trail looking for her on the VF side and the Highway side. Could not find her, called the Sheriff's department back to let them know I did not find her. They had her number, sent her a text to get more info. 10 minutes later I got a call back. She made it out and was ok.

9/27

Dawn Glanc

Email Communication from Rigging for Rescue

Wed, Sep 27,
11:20 AM

Rigging for Rescue
<info@riggingforrescue.com>

Greetings,

Tim Pasek is Instructing a Fundamentals seminar this week and will be conducting a training in the Upper Bridge/POV & Mixed Alcove area (west side of gorge/ice park side). He'll be there today for sure, possible later this week. I'll update you when I have more info. Thanks!

Best wishes,

Tres Barbatelli

[Rigging for Rescue](#), LLC

1900 Main St. Unit 6A, P.O. Box 745

Ouray, CO 81427-0745

970.325.4474

9/30

Chris Hinkson

A few things I saw on the route today.

Down stream

1. The 3rd anchor off the Mars Wall has a burr on the cable.
2. 2nd anchor after #6.6 has a burr on the cable.
3. The 4th anchor going south from the finish 6.7 cable is out of the metal sleeve and will not stay in.

9/30

Dawn Glanc

Ranger Chris showed up today to climb the OVF on her own time. We discovered that her lanyard was missing. I emailed the other rangers and no one knew what happened to the lanyard.

**October 2023
Ranger Report
Submitted by: Dawn Glanc**

This year, the month of October had beautiful weather. Clear sunny skies were the norm. A snow storm came at the end of the month. This snow storm closed the OVF October 28-30. The snow, ice and freezing temperatures remained until the end of the season. October 31st was the last day of operation. On the last day the hours were from 10:00am-2:00pm so that the ranger would be in the sun. 14 climbers climbed on the last day. Three groups came in costume. Unfortunately, due to the weather, the closing party did not happen.

The number of climbers in 2023 was the highest ever. The month of October was still very busy.

Month	2020	2021	2022	2023
May	289	1035	966	858
June	1620	1763	1846	2252
July	2387	2867	2669	3278
August	2110	2144	2047	2553
September	1935	1971	1879	2460
October	1292	942	952	1368
Totals	9633	10722	10359	12769

October Weather Closures:

- 10/2 closed at noon due to rain
- 1028 Closed due to snow
- 10/29 Closed due to snow
- 10/30 Closed due to snow
- 10/31 Open from 10:00am-2:00pm for closing day.

**Ranger Report:
October 2
Dawn Glanc**

Email communication from Jimmy Chiang from the Ouray High School Outdoor Education program.

Dear Via Ferrata Ranger,

This is Jimmy with the Ouray school district writing to let you know that I'll be taking the 7 students in my outdoor education class on the Ouray Via Ferrata this Wednesday, October 4th. Pending weather, we'll be returning to run the upstream course the following Tuesday, October 10th. We'll be on the course from approximately 1:00pm to 3:30pm, and are self-sufficient.

Enjoy this beautiful fall weather!

Cheers,

Jimmy Chiang

October 2

Dawn Glanc

Email Communication from Rigging for Rescue

Mon, Oct 2,
1:34 PM

Hello-

RfR will be in the Ice Park gorge this week of Oct 2-6. Current plans have us in the South Park vicinity this afternoon. Thanks

October 10

Chris Hinkson

I have had quite a few people show up in sandals this year. Can we make a post as a reminder on the proper footwear. I think we should start turning them away. The guy today was told about his footwear last time, but came with sandals anyway. I told him we are going to start turning people away with sandals.

October 28

Dawn Glanc

Email Communication with Clint Cook

I wanted to put the request to get the cables taken down for the year. Also, Chris Hinkson has a small list that needs attention.

A few things Chris found on the Downstream Route

1. The 3rd anchor off the Mars Wall has a burr on the cable.
2. The 2nd anchor after #6.6 has a burr on the cable.
3. The 4th anchor going south from the finish 6.7 cable is out of the metal sleeve and will not stay in.

Clint copied my request. The OVF maintenance crew will take down the cable bridges on November 6.

October 31

Dawn Glanc

The OVF was open from 10:00am-2:00pm for closing day. Unfortunately the closing party was canceled on Oct 29 due to snow.

Here are some photos from the day



WELCOME TO THE OURAY VIA FERRATA UPSTREAM ROUTE

The route is managed by Friends of the Ouray Via Ferrata. Please report any issues to OurayViaFerrata.org

PLEASE SUPPORT AND THANK OUR SPONSORS.

SPONSORS:

- Telluray Foundation
- Alpine Bank
- OURAY SILVER MINES
- PETZL
- BOX CANYON
- Premier Vacation Rentals
- CIRQUE
- The Lombard Cedes
- OURAY LIQUOR
- THE LABONSKI FAMILY
- OURAY
- ROCKIN' P. RANCH
- American Mattress Montrose • Michelle Poirier • Ouray Bookshop
- Ouray Brewing Co • Ouray Mountain Sports • Ouray RV Park • Wild West Realty

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT:



RULES

OURAY VIA FERRATA MANDATORY RULES:

User assumes all risk from use. In case of emergency call 911

THIS ACTIVITY CAN KILL YOU!

YOU MUST:

- WEAR A HELMET
- WEAR A HARNESS
- USE A CERTIFIED EAS VIA FERRATA LANYARD SYSTEM
- WEAR GLOVES
- STURDY SHOES/BOOTS
- ONLY TWO PEOPLE ARE ALLOWED AT A TIME ON CABLE BRIDGE
- ONLY TWO PEOPLE ON A SECTION OF CABLE DIFFICULTY BRIDGE AT A TIME
- STAY CLIPPED IN!

Difficulty 4.5S

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT:
You must have your own equipment that meets the following requirements:
- Helmets: Must be ANSI Z89.1 approved and in good condition.
- Harness: Must be full-body, double-back, and in good condition.
- Lanyards: Must be certified for use on steel cables and in good condition.
- Carabiners: Must be locking, double-throated, and in good condition.

ONE WAY ONLY! NO REVERSE DIRECTION ALLOWED

INEXPERIENCED USERS SHOULD HIRE A PROFESSIONAL GUIDE

SAFETY: Please do not drink alcohol or use recreational drugs before or during the activity. Do not use the route if you are under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Do not use the route if you are injured or have any medical conditions that could be exacerbated by the activity. Do not use the route if you are pregnant or have a heart condition. Do not use the route if you are alone. Do not use the route if you are not properly equipped. Do not use the route if you are not properly trained. Do not use the route if you are not properly supervised. Do not use the route if you are not properly instructed. Do not use the route if you are not properly briefed. Do not use the route if you are not properly warned. Do not use the route if you are not properly notified. Do not use the route if you are not properly informed. Do not use the route if you are not properly advised. Do not use the route if you are not properly cautioned. Do not use the route if you are not properly alerted. Do not use the route if you are not properly notified. Do not use the route if you are not properly informed. Do not use the route if you are not properly advised. Do not use the route if you are not properly cautioned. Do not use the route if you are not properly alerted.

OurayViaFerrata.org







REQUIRED EQUIPMENT
THIS ACTIVITY CAN KILL
YOU MUST USE:



ALERT: User assumes all risk from use. In case of emergency...



HELP US KEEP THE OVF FREE!!
DONATIONS GREATLY APPRECIATED



Ouray Via Ferrata End Of The Season Party

Ouray Via Ferrata End Of Season Party with a Costume Contest and Refreshments!

October 29, 2023

Via Ferrata 8:00-4:00

Costume Contest 8:00-1:00

Refreshments 11:00-1:00

On October 29th The Ouray Via Ferrata will be celebrating another great climbing season. Please join us for some climbing, fun and refreshments. The costume contest will be from 8:00 am- 1:00pm. (Costumes must still accommodate required safety gear) Prizes will be awarded for best individual and best group costumes.

Refreshments will be served near the end of the downstream route from 11:00-1:00pm.

*The OVF will close on Tuesday October 31 at 2:00pm.

November 2

Dawn Glanc

Rangers had an end of the season debrief. We met at Kami's Samis for lunch.

Notes from the Ranger Debrief:

- Get a small heater for the ranger shack
- Get another solar light for the ranger shack
- Get gravel or wood chips for the entrance trail, especially around the shack to keep the dust down
- Early exit trails on both OVF routes need to be improved and signed to guide climbers back to the parking area
- Include OVF in the Ouray Wayfinding project
- Can we turn away climbers who wear sandals on the route? Can we make a closed toe shoe mandatory?
- The Head Ranger needs to change the google form used to collect data. Make changes to reflect multiple places a group is from.
- The OVF brochure needs to be updated. Entrances and exits should be well marked.
- Update OVF entrance signage to reflect the weight limit rule change.
- Update signs on Upstream Entrance Bridge and Ladder to reflect 1 climber at a time
- Gear Questions for Gear Manufacturers
 - Is a caving harness adequate to catch fall on the OVF?
 - Is a canyoning harness adequate to catch fall on the OVF?
 - Is a Rescue/Rope Access harness adequate to catch fall on the OVF?
 - What is considered a deployment of the lanyard system?
 - What is the OVF policy on gear recalls?
 - Rangers discussed the Zephyr Y lanyard system and agreed to not allow the lanyard style on the OVF due to the fact that the system is outdated gear that was recalled.

November 3

Dawn Glanc

Dismantled the OVF entrance area, cleaned out the Ranger Shack and hung up the OVF Closed signs.



Ouray City Council Regular Meeting

Monday, February 5, 2024 6:00 PM

Ouray Community Center, 320 6th Ave, Ouray, CO 81427

Ethan Funk: Present
Tamara Gulde: Present
Peggy Lindsey: Present
Josh Smith: Present
Michael Underwood: Present

Also present were: City Administrator Silas Clarke, Finance and Administration Director Melissa Drake, Public Works Director Joe Coleman, City Resources Director Rick Noll, Acting Police Chief Gary Ray, Tourism and Destination Marketing Director Kailey Rhoten, IT Director Rich Willis and City Attorney Carol Viner.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Funk called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

2. ROLL CALL

3. Consideration of a Request from Councilor Tamara Gulde to Participate in this Meeting Remotely, per Resolution 4, Series 2022 - Remote Participation Policy for Council Members

No longer applicable, Councilor Gulde attending in person.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

5. PUBLIC HEARING - Hotel & Restaurant Liquor License - Ouray Riverside Resort - The Smokehouse, JTP Inc.

Mayor Funk opened the public hearing. Greg Nelson spoke in favor of granting the liquor license. Mayor Funk closed the public hearing.

6. CEREMONIAL/INFORMATIONAL - Review of 2022 Financial Audit

Pete Blair presented the audits to the Council.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - 1/16/2024

Motion to approve the minutes as presented. This motion, made by Tamara Gulde and seconded by Josh Smith, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

8. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATION

Mayor Funk opened the floor for public comment. Mark Rozich asked why there has been no snow removal on 7th Ave in front of his business this winter. Mr. Coleman said the last time he was working there, there were several vehicles that needed to be moved. Mayor Funk suggested that Mr. Rozich communicates with Mr. Coleman when Public Works is working on 7th Ave to get the cars moved when they're plowing. Mayor Funk closed the floor.

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS/INFORMATION - Tamara Gulde, Peggy Lindsey, Michael Underwood, Josh Smith, and Ethan Funk

Councilor Gulde - TAC meeting is coming up on February 20th. The OIPI public meeting covered preparations for the Ice Fest, and the All In Ice Fest report was given. Attended CAST meetings with the rest of council and Mr. Clarke.

Councilor Lindsey - Next Beautification meeting on February 7th. The Fire Mitigation meeting occurred on January 23rd, and the City will host the next meeting, date to be determined.

Councilor Underwood - OEDC meeting will be held on February 8th, PARC meeting on February 13th. Attended the Pool Community meeting on January 30th, and the CAST meetings.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith - Transportation group set a start date for the shuttle service, February 26. Working on finalizing the schedule, the fare has been finalized at \$8 per round trip. Fire Mitigation Group is working to specify how trees should be removed to make the project shovel ready, and possibly expanding the treatment area.

Mayor Funk - Attended CAST meetings and the Community Pool meeting on January 30th. High Alpine Road Map Group met and worked to identify infrastructure needs in the high country.

10. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

a. City Administrator

Mr. Clarke thanked the staff for handling the tumultuous situation with the pending case involving Chief Wood, and gave an overview of his report.

b. Fire Chief

Report in packet.

c. Public Works Director

Mr. Coleman gave an overview of his report.

d. City Resources Director

Mr. Noll announced that he would be retiring in the next few months after 18 years with the City.

e. Tourism and Destination Marketing Director

Ms. Rhoten gave an overview of her report.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

- Special Events Permit Application - Ouray Mountain Rescue Team, Avalanche Awareness Workshop - Feb 17, 2024

- Special Events Permit Application - Ouray Elks Lodge #492, Mardi Gras, February 17, 2024

- Festival Permit Application - Wright Opera House - February 17, 2024 (Notice to City Only)

- Special Events Permit Application - Ouray Elks Lodge #492, Green Bingo - March 17, 2024

- Liquor License Renewal Application - Brickhouse 737

- J. Gary Dunn Resignation from Planning Commission

- Jen Sawyer Resignation from TAC - Arts/Culture/History

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Josh Smith, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

12. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Hotel & Restaurant Liquor License - Ouray Riverside Resort - The Smokehouse, JTP Inc.

Motion to approve Hotel & Restaurant Liquor License for Ouray Riverside Resort - The Smokehouse, JTP Inc. This motion, made by Josh Smith and seconded by Tamara Gulde, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

- b. Resolution 3, Series 2024 - Trash/Recycling Contract with Bruin Waste

Councilor Gulde asked if all plastics were accepted for recycling, and asked for clarification on the types of liquids that are prohibited in the trash. Chris Trosper from Bruin Waste Management said liquids are not allowed in landfills per CDPHE, but the biggest concern is hazardous waste like paint. Keeping liquids out of trash helps keep the streets cleaner, and the inside of their trucks, so they do ask that liquids are not thrown away. Jay Lauderdale said that Waste Management, while accepting plastics #1-7, does not actually recycle 90% of what they pick up and end up putting it in the landfill.

Motion to approve Resolution 3, Series 2024. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Michael Underwood, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

- c. Revised Housing Needs Study

Motion to adopt revised housing needs study. This motion, made by Josh Smith and seconded by Tamara Gulde, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

- d. Rename City Resources Department to Parks and Recreation Department

Motion to rename City Resources Department to Parks and Recreation Department. This motion, made by Michael Underwood and seconded by Peggy Lindsey, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

- e. Agreement with KRW for Parks and Recreation Director Hiring Search

Motion to approve the agreement with KRW for Parks and Recreation Director Hiring Search. This motion, made by Josh Smith and seconded by Michael Underwood, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

- f. Application for TAC Arts/Culture/History Seat - Kate Kissingford

Motion to appoint Kate Kissingford to the TAC Arts/Culture/History Seat. This motion, made by Tamara Gulde and seconded by Peggy Lindsey, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

13. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. In-city Transportation Shuttle

Council discussed possible routes for an in-city shuttle, and whether the City should buy or lease a vehicle or contract it out. Kevin Schiffer asked if the shuttle was meant to enhance current tourists' experience or bring new tourists. Council believed that it would do some of both.

- b. Schedule Work Session to Continue Discussion of Parks and Trails Strategic Plan (Tues, Feb 20?)

Strategic Plan Work Session scheduled for February 20th from 1:00-4:00 pm

Special Meeting scheduled on February 12th at 10:00 am

- c. Future Agenda Items

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:16 pm. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Josh Smith, Carried.
Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

Ethan Funk, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa M. Drake, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Melissa M. Drake, do hereby certify that I am the City Clerk of the City of Ouray, Ouray County, State of Colorado, and that the above minutes are a true and correct summary of the meeting of the Ouray City Council held on Monday, February 5, 2024. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this Monday, February 5, 2024.

Melissa M. Drake, City Clerk



Ouray City Council Special Meeting

Monday, February 12, 2024 10:00 AM
Ouray Community Center, 320 6th Ave, Ouray, CO 81427

Ethan Funk: Present
Tamara Gulde: Present
Peggy Lindsey: Present
Josh Smith: Present
Michael Underwood: Present

Also present were: City Administrator Silas Clarke and Finance and Administration Director Melissa Drake.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Funk called the meeting to order at 10:00 am

2. ROLL CALL

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

4. ACTION ITEM - Special Events Permit Application - Ouray Ice Park Inc. - MountainFilm on Tour, February 18, 2024

Motion to approve the Special Events Permit Application for the Ouray Ice Park. This motion, made by Tamara Gulde and seconded by Josh Smith, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

5. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 10:02 am. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Tamara Gulde, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

Ethan Funk, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa M. Drake, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Melissa M. Drake, do hereby certify that I am the City Clerk of the City of Ouray, Ouray County, State of Colorado, and that the above minutes are a true and correct summary of the meeting of the Ouray City Council held on Monday, February 12, 2024. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this Monday, February 12, 2024.

Melissa M. Drake, City Clerk

OURAY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 12, 2024

CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:32

ATTENDANCE AND REPORTS

16 members present; 3 excused; 5 absent

The Treasurer's Report was read and approved.

Prior minutes were read and approved.

DETAILED ATTENDANCE

Present

Adam Kunz, Bumper Williams, Patrick Rondinelli, John Fedel, Tom Fedel, Kyle Easley, Chris Miller, Max Austin, Steve Duce, Derek Fleischer, Nathan Judd, Dack Klein, Chris Lee, Tim Pasek, Tom Tyler, Andrew Wakefield

Excused

Justin Clark, Kevin Koprek, Ted Pullig

Absent

Tyler Ferguson, Steve Martinez, Dave Turner, Sam Tyler, Danny Wilbur

OLD BUSINESS

OCCF Grant - Grant awarded for \$4k to purchase (4ea) Seek FirePRO 200 TICs. Make sure to thank Citizens State Bank/OCCF if you see them.

Fireworks - Only shooting small shots

3rd of July Band - TBD, to be discussed at the January meeting.

2023 YE Review - Max Austin - Top Responder

NEW BUSINESS

July 3rd - Tent has been booked, Sound/Lights Booked. Band - talking to Donny Morales, no response. Currently looking at different options: possibly Eli Howard and the Greater Good Band.

Training - Training is in effect, every other Wednesday. Next training is February 21st. FF1 training class potentially starting March 1st. Google Calendar will get rolled out soon to keep everyone up to date. March 16th/23rd - Wildland Refresher course 8am-noon.

Parker Blackford - Motion made, seconded and approved to add Parker Blackford as a junior firefighter.

Donations - \$1000 donation check from Sleeping Indian Ranch wedding ('36 truck wedding appearance). Pending donation from Tom Kelly after his passing.

Training Rules - In Progress: No out of town trainings unless training hours are completed from the past year along with enough local training.

Training Opportunity - La Junta, Fire in the Plains in June.

Maintenance - Nathan Judd in charge of truck maintenance.

Engine Updates - In Progress: add charging bays and generator to Engine.

Membership - Pending membership changes, looking for new applicants to fill vacant/non-active rolls.

March Meeting - Elections: Secretary, Treasurer, Chief, Asst. Chief. Dutch Lunch.

Standard Fire Scene Channel - Ouray Fire Ops. Mutual Aid Responses - FERN. Apparatus radios always stay on County.

ADJOURNED AT 7:19

P.O. Box 468
320 Sixth Avenue
Ouray, Colorado 81427



970.325.7211
Fax 970.325.7212
www.cityofouray.com

City Administrator
Report for February 20, 2024
City Council February 5 – February 16, 2024

Community Development Director:

A huge welcome to Kristen Clothier, new Community Development Director. Kristen started with the City on Thursday, Feb. 14th.

Parks & Recreation Director Position:

Andi Shofner, HR Manager, and I are working with KRW to open the Parks & Recreation Director position within two weeks.

OEDC Round-Table on Service Animals:

After many phone calls, we have identified a representative from the Division of Disability Rights in Denver that will come to Ouray to discuss service animal owner rights with the business community. The OEDC is working on the exact date of the event, which will provide our businesses with the information of what questions can be asked and the rights of the owners of service animals.

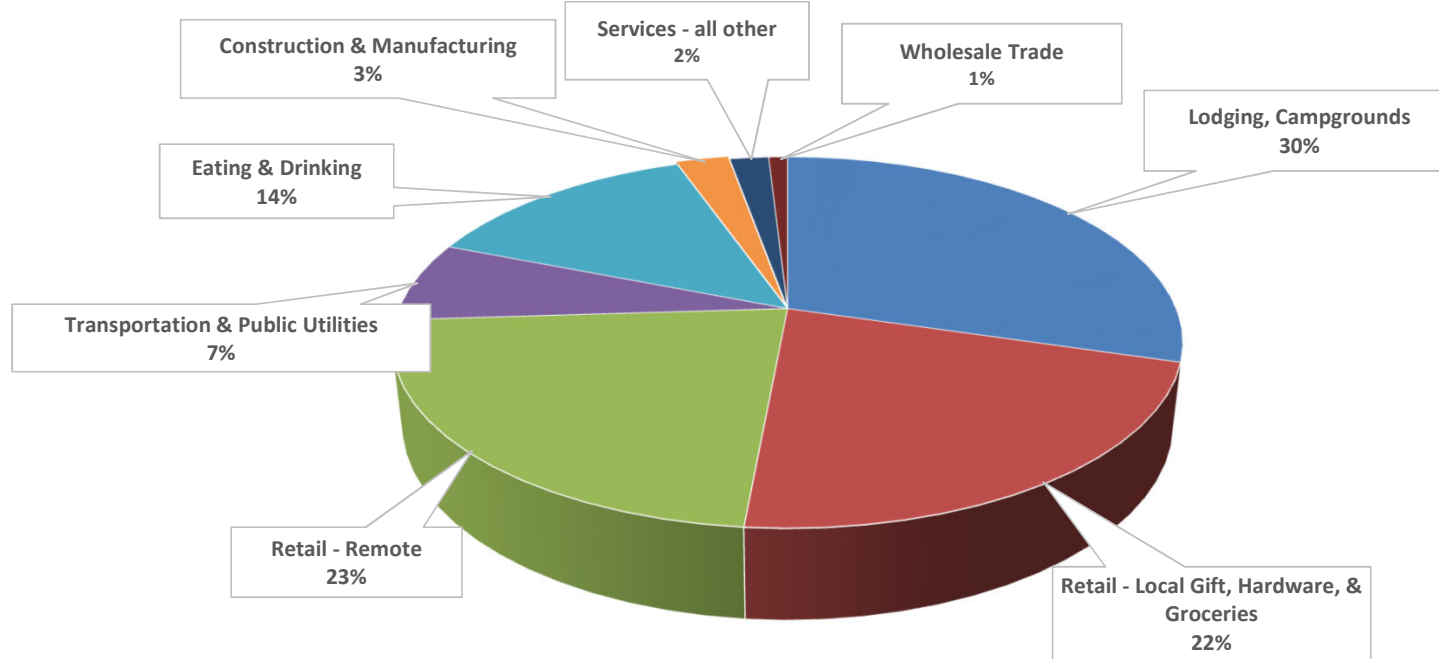
Wayfinding Meeting with the Ute Tribe representative:

The Ute Tribe representative was unable to meet with us on Feb. 14 due to a family emergency. The goal of this meeting was to obtain acceptance of the artwork, as presented by Tangram to the City Council, for the Wayfinding signage and entrance sign. An email was sent to the representative with the example for their input to try and expedite the process.

Main Streets Pickax Workshop:

Thank you to DOLA for the funding to conduct the Main Streets PickAx Workshop and to our Main Streets Coordinator for getting this program setup. You will hear more about this in Autumn's report in this agenda packet.

City of Ouray
December 2023 Sales Tax Revenues by Business Category
(received in February 2024)

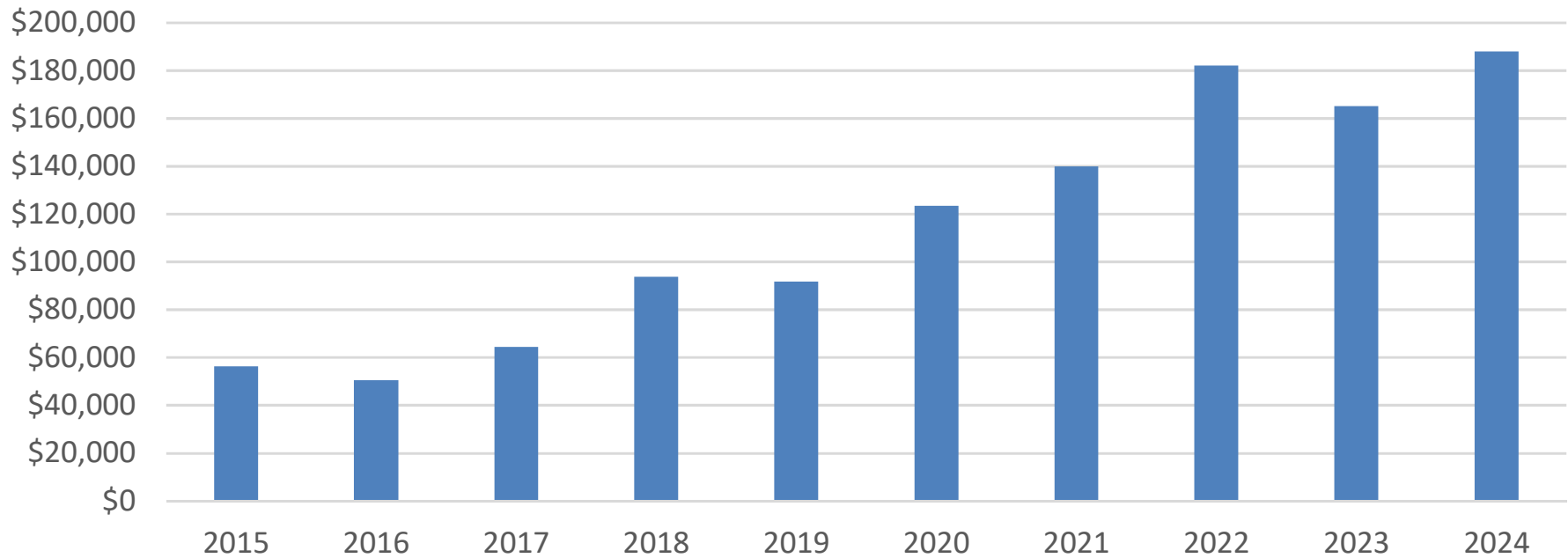


CITY OF OURAY
2024 MONTHLY SALES TAX REVENUES BY BUSINESS CATEGORY

(1) Month tax received from State of Colorado, representing sales from two months earlier (e.g. tax shown as APRIL is mostly from FEBRUARY)

2024 SALES TAX REVENUES BY BUSINESS CATEGORY							
(1) Funds received by City in: July (mostly re: May)							
Business Category	January	February	March	April	May	June	
Lodging, Campgrounds	\$ 32,828.21	\$ 55,664.35					
Retail - Local Gift, Hardware, & Groceries	\$ 24,774.67	\$ 41,173.24					
Retail - Remote	\$ 29,570.18	\$ 42,416.98					
Transportation & Public Utilities	10,498.73	13,123.23					
Eating & Drinking	22,336.34	25,615.00					
Construction & Manufacturing	9,316.95	4,858.16					
Services - all other	4,352.93	3,571.60					
Wholesale Trade	1,696.14	1,730.82					
TOTAL	\$ 135,374.15	\$ 188,153.38	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Business Category	July	August	September	October	November	December	Year-to-date
Lodging, Campgrounds							\$ 88,492.56
Retail - Local Gift, Hardware, & Groceries							\$ 65,947.91
Retail - Remote							\$ 71,987.16
Transportation & Public Utilities							23,621.96
Eating & Drinking							47,951.34
Construction & Manufacturing							14,175.11
Services - all other							7,924.53
Wholesale Trade							3,426.96
TOTAL	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 323,527.53

CITY OF OURAY
DECEMBER SALES TAX REVENUE COMPARISON
Over Past 10 Years



Notes: Figures represent tax revenue received February of the specified year
Sales Tax increased from 3% to 4% on January 1, 2016

CITY OF OURAY
SALES TAX REVENUES BY BUSINESS CATEGORY 2015-2024

SALES TAX REVENUES BY BUSINESS CATEGORY

Business Category	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Lodging, campgrnds.	\$ 12,085.00	\$ 11,321.41	\$ 15,363.88	\$ 27,217.45	\$ 23,993.54	\$ 32,873.34	\$ 36,995.90	\$ 48,592.86	\$ 49,002.77	\$ 55,664.35
Retail - Local Gift, Hardware, & Groceries						\$ 22,157.99	\$ 32,966.65	\$ 39,424.05	\$ 39,030.97	\$ 41,173.24
Retail - Remote						\$ 21,204.34	\$ 26,286.38	\$ 39,440.45	\$ 25,093.62	\$ 42,416.98
Retail - groceries, liquor, candy, hardw	11,543.14	9,561.16	14,572.24	18,705.19	24,305.11					
Retail - gift, souvenir, variety, books	6,680.43	6,560.29	6,619.21	8,263.50	9,235.38					
Trans & Pub. Util.	7,368.27	6,125.74	7,521.63	7,321.11	7,669.12	15,972.66	11,494.47	11,994.95	13,673.78	13,123.23
Eating & Drinking	10,015.60	8,171.87	9,443.19	19,730.16	14,237.33	27,216.57	26,647.64	29,458.33	27,276.64	25,615.00
Const. & Manufacturing	3,016.80	6,225.16	6,409.34	8,546.01	7,047.90	2,337.47	1,830.76	6,439.43	5,198.58	4,858.16
Services - all other	1,803.94	1,563.93	2,942.46	3,371.18	3,285.33	1,369.61	2,282.00	5,116.91	3,975.15	3,571.60
Finance, Ins. Real Estate	798.21	845.53	1,353.98	537.11	1,045.92					
Wholesale Trade	142.67	64.32	78.04	148.96	977.95	301.35	1,551.93	1,747.95	1,844.32	1,730.82
Mining	-									
All Other	3,006.54	63.00	105.00							
TOTAL	\$ 56,460.60	\$ 50,502.41	\$ 64,408.97	\$ 93,840.67	\$ 91,797.58	\$ 123,433.33	\$ 140,055.73	\$ 182,214.93	\$ 165,095.83	\$ 188,153.38
					\$2,834.54 out-of-period	\$22,126.82 out-of-period	\$7,310.05 out-of-period	\$6,656.57 out-of-period	\$2,131.96 out-of-period	\$6,298.76 out-of-period

Year to Date Sales Tax Comparison

Percentage Change
from 2022

December 2022 Activity	\$ 165,095.83	
December 2023 Activity	\$ 188,153.38	13.97%
Jan-Dec 2022 Activity	\$ 2,897,975.23	
Jan-Dec 2023 Activity	\$ 3,091,865.11	6.69%

Ouray Lodging Occ. Tax Collection Summary

ROOMS	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	23 vs 22
Month											
January	4349	5712	5826	5113	5782	6196	6245	5936	7718	7609	-1.41%
February	3874	4816	5226	4509	5085	5593	4641	7189	7776	5906	-24.05%
March	2949	3394	3638	3499	4763	4152	1952	6993	6782	7341	8.24%
April	1836	2236	2660	2411	3080	2857	32	4941	4172	3836	-8.05%
May	4149	5047	5850	5939	7396	7894	3111	11093	10002	9560	-4.42%
June	10718	12015	13521	14494	14578	15026	12736	17520	16180	17231	6.50%
July	17248	19171	19960	20248	19802	19482	20444	20509	16551	19482	17.71%
August	15198	16477	16949	17344	17613	18629	16919	20798	17825	18657	4.67%
September	13377	15478	16149	16526	17743	18498	17564	13517	18930	18234	-3.68%
October	6450	7937	7691	7762	7462	9407	12877	12038	12080	12388	2.55%
November	1936	2141	2113	2674	2856	3237	3864	3199	3196	3691	15.49%
December	3696	3656	3382	4226	5038	4268	5153	5237	3998	4468	11.76%
Total Rooms	85780	98080	102965	104745	111198	115239	105538	128970	125210	128403	2.11%

DOLLARS											
January	\$11,848	\$15,867	\$15,819	\$13,795	\$16,294	\$22,444	\$25,204	\$27,107	\$29,038	\$36,828	26.83%
February	\$10,430	\$12,468	\$13,908	\$12,648	\$14,021	\$19,580	\$18,464	\$28,191	\$36,284	\$30,377	-16.28%
March	\$7,945	\$9,240	\$9,505	\$9,529	\$12,884	\$14,526	\$6,834	\$27,858	\$30,334	\$30,554	0.72%
April	\$4,975	\$5,701	\$6,633	\$6,294	\$8,090	\$8,312	\$107	\$18,324	\$18,466	\$17,063	-7.60%
May	\$11,357	\$13,876	\$15,372	\$15,734	\$19,031	\$22,068	\$7,922	\$41,033	\$43,131	\$39,992	-7.28%
June	\$28,419	\$31,431	\$34,498	\$36,654	\$36,236	\$62,392	\$51,634	\$100,852	\$98,839	\$107,693	8.96%
July	\$44,740	\$47,884	\$49,767	\$50,344	\$49,371	\$110,244	\$114,230	\$138,864	\$131,139	\$142,596	8.74%
August	\$40,035	\$41,643	\$41,801	\$42,090	\$43,236	\$90,952	\$92,809	\$127,157	\$122,778	\$127,552	3.89%
September	\$35,960	\$40,336	\$41,704	\$41,965	\$44,480	\$79,505	\$93,050	\$98,575	\$119,099	\$123,174	3.42%
October	\$17,556	\$21,385	\$20,717	\$20,355	\$19,711	\$37,511	\$60,690	\$54,480	\$74,824	\$74,823	0.00%
November	\$5,092	\$5,136	\$5,802	\$7,079	\$7,000	\$10,367	\$15,399	\$14,134	\$14,566	\$15,480	6.28%
December	\$9,918	\$9,571	\$9,590	\$11,882	\$13,622	\$17,593	\$24,892	\$29,038	\$23,554	\$25,679	9.02%
Total Dollars	\$228,275	\$254,538	\$265,116	\$268,369	\$283,976	\$495,494	\$511,234	\$705,613	\$742,052	\$771,811	36.70%

Data represents rooms and dollars for month in which lodging activity occurred.
 LOT report and payment are due by 20th of following month.
 "ROOMS" data includes exempt rooms.

OURAY LODGING OCCUPANCY TRENDS

Based on Lodging Occupation Tax Collections

	2021				2022				2023			
	Avail.	Rooms		Exempt	Avail.	Rooms		Exempt	Avail.	Rooms		Exempt
	Rooms	Rented	Occ.%	Rooms	Rooms	Rented	Occ.%	Rooms	Rooms	Rented	Occ.%	Rooms
	+ RVs, Unfurnished Cabins				+ RVs, Unfurnished Cabins				+ RVs, Unfurnished Cabins			
January	16357	5936	36.3%	61	17411	5237	30.1%	0	20375	7609	37.3%	469
February	17752	7189	40.5%	209	16580	7776	46.9%	0	17183	6062.36	35.3%	386
March	18804	6993	37.2%	364	17657	6782	38.4%	7	19519	7341	37.6%	341
April	16716	4941	29.6%	191	16620	4172	25.1%	31	18168	3836	21.1%	0
May	20240	11093	54.8%	213	21206	10002	47.2%	57	21360	9560	44.8%	110
June	21576	17520	81.2%	88	20577	16180	78.6%	13	21111	17231	81.6%	122
July	22375	20509	91.7%	121	20677	16551	80.0%	432	21195	19482	91.9%	499
August	23292	20798	89.3%	215	21613	17825	82.5%	53	21504	18657	86.8%	481
September	19088	13517	70.8%	209	21327	18930	88.8%	47	21086	18234	86.5%	413
October	17778	12038	67.7%	95	20398	12080	59.2%	10	20094	12388	61.7%	261
November	13529	3199	23.6%	54	15776	3196	20.3%	260	16283	3691	22.7%	254
December	17411	5237	30.1%	12	17828	5050	28.3%	4	16749	4468	26.7%	215
Total	224918	128970	57.3%	1832	227670	123781	52.1%	914	234627	128559.36	52.8%	3551

Data represents rooms for month in which lodging activity occurred.

LOT report and payment are due by 20th of following month.

"Rooms Rented" columns includes exempt rooms.

"Exempt Rooms" columns are for memo purposes only.

2023 Lodging Occupation Tax, By Business Category

AVAILABLE ROOMS	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Hotel, Motel	12,801	10,598	12,345	12,187	12,740	12,411	12,148	12,365	12,119	12,082	9,865	10,403	142,064
Bed and Breakfast	1,072	996	719	616	890	1,080	1,236	1,234	1,079	1,085	717	611	11,335
House, Townhouse, Condo (1)	3,929	3,265	3,882	2,875	3,142	3,180	3,223	3,317	3,448	3,379	3,211	3,162	40,013
RV Space, Unfurnished Cabin	2,573	2,324	2,573	2,490	4,588	4,440	4,588	4,588	4,440	3,548	2,490	2,573	41,215
Total Rooms	20,375	17,183	19,519	18,168	21,360	21,111	21,195	21,504	21,086	20,094	16,283	16,749	234,627
												Prior YTD	217,066

ROOMS RENTED	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Hotel, Motel	5,130	4,327	5,379	2,923	5,589	10,505	11,580	11,118	10,925	8,035	2,562	3,007	81,080
Bed and Breakfast	413	235	226	116	237	720	1,037	990	926	607	116	130	5,753
House, Townhouse, Condo (1)	1,171	845	1,015	247	648	1,852	2,299	2,109	2,135	1,429	553	839	15,142
RV Space, Unfurnished Cabin	895	655	721	550	3,086	4,154	4,566	4,440	4,248	2,317	460	492	26,584
Total Rooms	7,609	6,062	7,341	3,836	9,560	17,231	19,482	18,657	18,234	12,388	3,691	4,468	128,559
												Prior YTD	118,076

DOLLARS	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Hotel, Motel	\$ 24,080.77	\$ 21,586.54	\$ 21,327.32	\$ 14,082.17	\$ 30,243.51	\$ 71,899.41	\$ 93,295.59	\$ 86,236.42	\$ 82,850.96	\$ 52,899.06	\$ 11,146.86	\$ 17,196.79	\$ 526,845.40
Bed and Breakfast	\$ 2,078.19	\$ 1,506.37	\$ 1,231.12	\$ 540.46	\$ 1,445.62	\$ 5,287.90	\$ 8,708.79	\$ 8,151.07	\$ 7,988.00	\$ 4,393.54	\$ 615.89	\$ 820.24	\$ 42,767.19
House, Townhouse, Condo (1)	\$ 9,520.90	\$ 6,630.79	\$ 6,889.70	\$ 1,537.72	\$ 5,052.90	\$ 21,322.57	\$ 29,744.64	\$ 23,183.87	\$ 23,342.15	\$ 12,817.13	\$ 3,180.62	\$ 6,906.86	\$ 150,129.85
RV Space, Unfurnished Cabin	\$ 1,147.90	\$ 652.97	\$ 1,105.79	\$ 903.05	\$ 3,249.55	\$ 9,183.11	\$ 10,847.11	\$ 9,981.09	\$ 8,992.57	\$ 4,712.96	\$ 536.67	\$ 755.31	\$ 52,068.08
Total Dollars	\$ 36,827.76	\$ 30,376.67	\$ 30,553.93	\$ 17,063.40	\$ 39,991.58	\$ 107,692.99	\$ 142,596.13	\$ 127,552.45	\$ 123,173.68	\$ 74,822.69	\$ 15,480.04	\$ 25,679.20	\$ 771,810.52
												Prior YTD	712,034.16

(1) For a property that is marketed as a stand-alone short-term rental, for which there are no hotel/motel amenities offered.

Data represents rooms for month in which lodging activity occurred.

LOT report and payment are due by 20th of following month.

"Rooms Rented" columns includes exempt rooms.

Activity Month	2022	2023	% Change from 2022	YTD % Change
January	\$ 27,661.19	\$ 37,085.48	34.1%	34.1%
February	\$ 32,883.88	\$ 27,662.57	-15.9%	6.9%
March	\$ 28,220.99	\$ 23,074.54	-18.2%	-1.1%
April	\$ 7,217.41	\$ 6,674.51	-7.5%	-1.5%
May	\$ 23,933.67	\$ 21,653.38	-9.5%	-3.1%
June	\$ 72,625.26	\$ 84,017.25	15.7%	4.0%
July	\$ 109,220.30	\$ 128,885.01	18.0%	9.0%
August	\$ 90,863.82	\$ 99,257.44	9.2%	9.1%
September	\$ 83,065.86	\$ 92,170.25	11.0%	9.4%
October	\$ 41,028.93	\$ 55,796.90	36.0%	11.5%
November	\$ 9,274.82	\$ 13,210.01	42.4%	12.1%
December	\$ 29,333.34	\$ 28,776.08	-1.9%	11.3%
Grand Total	\$ 555,329.49	\$ 618,263.42		

Revenue by Fund	2022	YTD 2023	Cumulative
Affordable/Attainable Housing	\$ 277,664.74	\$ 309,131.71	\$ 586,796.46
Water Capital Improvements	\$ 138,832.37	\$ 154,565.86	\$ 293,398.23
Sewer Capital Improvements	\$ 138,832.37	\$ 154,565.86	\$ 293,398.23
Cumulative Total Raised			\$ 1,173,592.91

Affordable Housing Revenue and Expenses	2022	YTD 2023	Cumulative
Total Raised	\$ 277,664.74	\$ 309,131.71	\$ 586,796.46
Total Spent	\$ (110,000.00)	\$ (67,849.69)	\$ (177,849.69)
Total Remaining	\$ 167,664.74	\$ 241,282.02	\$ 408,946.77

Average 2023 YTD Income Reported Per Property	\$ 37,852.15
Average 2023 YTD Excise Tax Paid Per Property	\$ 5,677.82

Check Date	Payee	Amount	Description
4/20/2022	Home Trust of Ouray County	\$ 10,000.00	2022 Operating funds
1/4/2023	Home Trust of Ouray County	\$ 100,000.00	734 4th St
2/1/2023	Home Trust of Ouray County	\$ 20,000.00	2023 Operating funds
4/26/2023	Economic & Planning Systems Inc	\$ 3,847.50	Housing needs analysis
5/24/2023	Economic & Planning Systems Inc	\$ 3,505.00	Housing needs analysis
6/7/2023	Buckhorn Engineering	\$ 3,426.25	Cascade Park Geohazard Assessment
7/5/2023	Economic & Planning Systems Inc	\$ 1,557.50	Housing needs analysis
8/2/2023	Economic & Planning Systems Inc	\$ 7,692.50	Housing needs analysis
9/6/2023	Buckhorn Engineering	\$ 6,293.75	Cascade Park Geohazard Assessment
9/27/2023	Economic & Planning Systems Inc	\$ 4,237.50	Housing needs analysis
11/1/2023	Economic & Planning Systems Inc	\$ 1,930.00	Housing needs analysis
11/29/2023	Economic & Planning Systems Inc	\$ 9,257.19	Housing needs analysis
1/23/2024	Economic & Planning Systems Inc	\$ 6,102.50	Housing needs analysis

City of Ouray Hot Springs Pool and Fitness Center - Visitor and Revenue Trends

(Source: Point of Sale Software)

VISITORS	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	% change from 2023
January	9,160	9,287	36	9,392	8,553	8,149	4,961	5,258	6,871	7,152	4.09%
February	7,158	9,095	13	7,342	5,970	7,836	4,824	6,660	5,599		
March	10,045	10,087	58	10,468	9,118	3,638	7,697	8,621	7,148		
April	5,691	6,195	16	7,048	5,481	-	7,104	5,249	4,693		
May	11,798	12,065	2,984	13,346	11,397	-	11,580	9,549	10,602		
June	20,970	22,404	18,175	24,764	24,525	1,540	25,977	20,156	23,206		
July	32,485	36,116	37,483	35,943	36,986	6,416	30,994	26,286	32,117		
August	22,377	22,353	25,486	23,936	23,274	12,622	22,179	19,101	21,170		
September	14,334	9,258	16,065	16,397	14,833	11,946	13,612	14,652	15,634		
October	7,360	62	9,834	8,771	9,596	10,699	9,368	10,135	11,035		
November	6,878	49	7,077	7,043	6,920	4,644	6,782	5,354	6,326		
December	7,646	47	10,753	9,046	8,174	4,439	6,317	6,510	8,152		
TOTAL YEAR	155,902	137,018	127,980	173,496	164,827	71,929	151,395	137,531	152,553		

REVENUE	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	% change from 2023
January	\$ 84,848.13	\$ 85,983.09	\$ 2,189.00	\$ 89,885.46	\$ 95,701.53	\$ 99,306.81	\$ 66,989.85	\$ 63,150.43	\$ 96,783.56	\$ 121,260.10	25.29%
February	\$ 62,350.28	\$ 78,569.69	\$ 724.00	\$ 70,970.13	\$ 65,918.59	\$ 97,215.12	\$ 61,086.55	\$ 85,924.20	\$ 112,926.04	\$ -	
March	\$ 92,289.88	\$ 84,745.80	\$ 1,012.00	\$ 102,232.15	\$ 108,526.39	\$ 47,810.30	\$ 106,419.45	\$ 126,759.01	\$ 120,467.93	\$ -	
April	\$ 50,940.75	\$ 52,112.54	\$ 2,234.00	\$ 72,957.12	\$ 62,025.47	\$ -	\$ 98,819.49	\$ 152,003.71	\$ 133,097.92	\$ -	
May	\$ 109,383.77	\$ 108,047.29	\$ 123,474.60	\$ 155,881.40	\$ 138,237.34	\$ -	\$ 162,720.12	\$ 143,279.82	\$ 208,335.74	\$ -	
June	\$ 186,061.57	\$ 211,853.56	\$ 166,974.02	\$ 317,542.31	\$ 311,093.17	\$ 19,273.04	\$ 352,538.72	\$ 321,377.13	\$ 469,321.85	\$ -	
July	\$ 300,620.51	\$ 332,026.16	\$ 479,802.39	\$ 455,519.84	\$ 474,330.32	\$ 74,169.01	\$ 428,489.09	\$ 452,460.99	\$ 646,348.28	\$ -	
August	\$ 194,321.61	\$ 198,465.34	\$ 326,151.96	\$ 308,882.04	\$ 295,953.46	\$ 165,977.58	\$ 312,872.14	\$ 316,183.52	\$ 419,353.80	\$ -	
September	\$ 127,909.15	\$ 80,149.87	\$ 184,807.92	\$ 200,777.07	\$ 188,131.33	\$ 158,666.78	\$ 186,412.51	\$ 238,796.90	\$ 283,459.93	\$ -	
October	\$ 63,216.05	\$ 2,737.00	\$ 82,537.92	\$ 99,235.68	\$ 120,843.43	\$ 145,302.53	\$ 131,806.01	\$ 170,555.12	\$ 211,284.83	\$ -	
November	\$ 54,218.80	\$ 1,796.25	\$ 62,435.74	\$ 84,885.49	\$ 83,976.37	\$ 58,403.16	\$ 88,639.21	\$ 84,930.60	\$ 107,867.28	\$ -	
December	\$ 74,421.59	\$ 1,957.00	\$ 112,212.40	\$ 111,645.98	\$ 105,050.32	\$ 60,304.81	\$ 79,891.78	\$ 94,844.99	\$ 156,882.10	\$ -	
TOTAL YEAR	\$ 1,400,582.09	\$ 1,238,443.59	\$ 1,544,555.95	\$ 2,070,414.67	\$ 2,049,787.72	\$ 926,429.14	\$ 2,076,684.92	\$ 2,250,266.42	\$ 2,966,129.26		

CITY OF OURAY VISITOR CENTER - REVENUE TRENDS

REVENUES

	2022		2023			2024			Incr./Decr.	24 vs. 23
	Concessions	Non-Profit	Concessions	Non-Profit	OHV	Concessions	Non-Profit	OHV		
January			\$ 228.95	\$ 53.00		\$ 284.11	\$ 25.00		\$ 27.16	10%
February			\$ 150.89	\$ 85.95						
March			\$ 395.38	\$ 4.00						
April			\$ 403.25	\$ 2.00	\$ 50.50					
May			\$ 1,098.28	\$ 611.60	\$ 126.25					
June			\$ 1,627.77	\$ 690.75	\$ 202.00					
July	\$ 910.80	\$ 215.00	\$ 2,517.75	\$ 664.60	\$ 782.75					
August	\$ 1,281.05	\$ 684.85	\$ 2,669.69	\$ 648.85	\$ 378.75					
September	\$ 1,814.71	\$ 676.95	\$ 2,834.91	\$ 698.00	\$ 75.75					
October	\$ 1,383.05	\$ 275.00	\$ 1,096.11	\$ 253.00	\$ 227.25					
November	\$ 380.36	\$ 121.00	\$ 354.94	\$ 40.00	\$ -					
December	\$ 516.45	\$ 79.00	\$ 233.25	\$ -	\$ -					
TOTAL \$	\$ 6,286.42	\$2,051.80	\$ 13,611.17	\$ 3,751.75	\$ 1,843.25	\$ 284.11	\$ 25.00	\$ -	\$ 27.16	
		\$ 8,338.22			\$ 19,206.17			\$ 309.11		

percent of sales earning profit

75%

71%

92%

Ouray Police Department City Council Report January 2024



Patrol Vehicle

The Ouray Police Department received its long awaited patrol vehicle in January, a 2023 Chevy Silverado 1500. The Silverado was issued to Officer Canfield. The Silverado will replace the eldest Chevy Tahoe. The Tahoe will remain in the Police Department's fleet as a spare vehicle.

New Officer:

The Ouray Police Department is still seeking of a fulltime Officer. The position is being advertised via social media websites and also on the Colorado Police Officer Standards and Training (POST) website.

AEDs

The Ouray Police Department has purchased 5 AEDs, one for each patrol vehicle, The AED's will be a vital piece of equipment when responding to a medical emergency requiring lifesaving services.

Ice Festival

The Police Department would like to report that the Ouray Ice Festival seemed to run smoothly this year as far as the police department was concerned. Those attending the Festival must have been on their best behavior, parking on Highway 550 near the Ice Festival went off without too much trouble. They seemed to park on the right side of the white line so we didn't have any traffic hazards in that area. Those car camping appeared to find places outside the City Limits to park overnight. I did see 18 vehicles camped along the roadway at Tuffy's Corner (Highway 550 MM 96) north of Ouray. There were no law enforcement issues reported at the Petzl party either.

Calls for Service and Self-initiated calls

Total calls responded to	432	
Directed Patrols	241	
Parking Problems	41	7 Citations Issued
Security Checks	14	
Agency Assists	11	
Traffic Stops	9	2 Citations Issued
Vehicle Accidents	6	
Welfare Checks	5	
Disturbance	1	
Family Fights	1	

Ouray Police Department
Sergeant G. Ray

Jan- Feb 2024 IT Highlights

- Fiber pulled into room at Wastewater Treatment Plant. Data plan for the building is set and awaiting rack installation. Network equipment is ready for installation.
- Met with Public Works Director and construction crew Mgt at the Water Treatment plant to determine the data plan and rack placement. The rack was provided for installation. Network equipment is ready for installation at that site as well.
- Generator maintenance coordinated and completed. All systems are go and subsequent preventative maintenance will occur every 4 months. Next maintenance will include the test of the building failover switching.
- Caselle Cloud Online financial software contract was received and is under review.
- Community Development Director accounts prepared with all former data and email access intact for reference.
- Council Chambers Online Meeting computer updated to a new PC with Windows 11
- New Automation script was created and run to back up the encryption recovery keys for all Windows computers to have a second version under IT admin purview. All City computers / devices are encrypted to protect data from physical theft.
- New Gym Access Control system installed with control via Internet connectivity. The updates to users are instantaneous unlike the prior system that required 10 minutes to process changes. The process is simpler with a user and a pin compared to users & associated card number & then pin. Supervisors can manage via the smart phone app. A new feature will allow remote opening the door that will be used at the front desk once configured with new cameras.
- New version of Visit Ouray was tested that used the camera on a Wifi only iPad to determine where landmarks were located.
- Label printer installed in PD evidence
- New cloud capable cameras with a different locally supported vendor are installed at the Ouray Hot Springs Pool and Fitness center.
- A former use Hot Springs cloud camera was moved to the Box Canon
- A former use Hot Springs cloud camera was moved to the Visitor Center
- Physical install of 4 City Hall doors for electronic access control are completed. Keyfobs will be available to use the doors. The former key access is there for legacy access.
- PD software for record keeping was moved to a server and upgraded to a new version.
- Security devices Network and Servers were updated to the latest versioning.



CCEC Report

Friday, 2.16.2024

Training Updates

TRAINING: L0146 HSEEP (Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program)

1. Attended the two-day course and passed the final exam to [receive certification](#) from FEMA.

Committee Updates

Main Street Committee

1. Spurred on by the [Community Business Preservation Program](#) grant, a virtual meeting on January 12 was held with the owners of the Artisan Bakery, Trevor and Erin, John Wood, and Larry Lucas, Main Street Architect of DOLA. This meeting was to discuss the Masonic Lodge building and create a plan to restore the historic appearance that falls within the Period of Significance for the Historic District. Discussions are happening with Sara Kappel at History Colorado. She is the lead for the Historic Tax Credit program.
2. Larry Lucas, Main Street Architect of DOLA, has also been checking in with the Wright Opera House regarding updates on the current efforts to restore the theatre's incredible Mesker facade. Here is part of a recent update from Lou Hart, "Currently, we are thinking that we should address functional renovations that will allow us to increase our use and activities. If that's the way we go, projects like the Mesker will have to be further down the road. We realize the Mesker is what many of our constituents would like us to prioritize as the aesthetics are most obvious but that may not be the most practical approach. We certainly want to engage your help and expertise as well as CHF (Colorado Historical Foundation)."
3. The [Main Street Committee](#) met on February 14 for a Regular Meeting. There was a workshop regarding a program called Pickaxe. This program is extended from DOLA

and the Main Street Program to help new-to-the-program Main Street committees create their “brand”. Matt Ashby and Ben Muldrow then took all of the information gathered and created a beautiful kick-off presentation which was presented at a Special Meeting on February 15. Slight changes were requested and the board anticipates voting on the finished branding at their next meeting, March 13.

4. Attended Tiny Town Talk ([DCI](#)) on February 6. Discussion was opened up to the group to share how interactions are done with local communities, counties, Colorado Municipal League ([CML](#)), CO City and County Managers Association ([CCCMA](#)), Economic Development Council of CO ([EDCC](#)), DCI, etc.

Ouray Economic Development Committee

OEDC 2024 MICRO-GRANT PROGRAM

The Ouray Economic Development Committee is pleased to announce the 2024 Micro-Grant Program. This grant is intended to provide micro-grants to entrepreneurs and existing businesses located and registered within Ouray who apply with a “shovel-ready” project.

APPLICATION WINDOW | JANUARY 22 - MARCH 1

Check our website for additional information!

If you would like to contribute monetarily or want to volunteer to help businesses in the City of Ouray thrive, please reach out using the contact information below:

E: OEDC@CITYOFOURAY.COM | 970.325.7211 | 320 6TH AVENUE



1. The [Ouray Economic Development Committee \(OEDC\)](#) met on February 8. They discussed the mini-grant cycle. This is on our website, social media, in the newsletters, emailed to registered businesses, and in the newspaper. This cycle closes on **Mar 1, 2024**.

City Updates

Noteworthy

1. Ouray has been chosen to be in a Tyler Perry film. Location team specialists arrived Wednesday, February 7. A few different timelines were discussed with February 20th being decided upon for the big film day. CDOT closure permits were needed, hotel rooms were in short supply, spaces were limited for the size of the production

crews, community members and business owners needed to be alerted, and time was short. We worked hard and pulled off some magic! You may have noticed all the hustle and bustle. Be on the lookout for our area in a movie called “Joy Ridge”!



2. Cabin Fever Day is happening! It may just pivot to different activities if the snow isn't good enough to ski on.

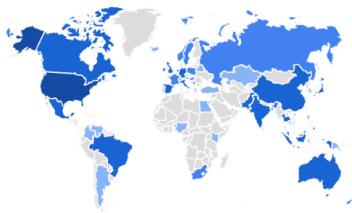
Website

1. Calendar events are updated daily and are viewable on the [homepage](#) of our new website.
2. A press release news article was added to “Latest News” titled, “[UPDATES + PRESS RELEASE: Chief Placed On Administrative Leave](#)”
3. Our new logo is now on our website as well as on the search engines.
4. Work continues to be done on pages that need updating. Thank you to everyone for their assistance and patience in this process!

Insight Updates

User attributes overview Last 30 days Jan 17 - Feb 15, 2024

Users by Country

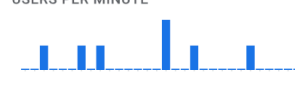


COUNTRY	USERS
United States	6.5K
Canada	77
Japan	30
United Kingdom	27
Germany	26
India	18
China	16

USERS IN LAST 30 MINUTES

5

USERS PER MINUTE



TOP COUNTRIES

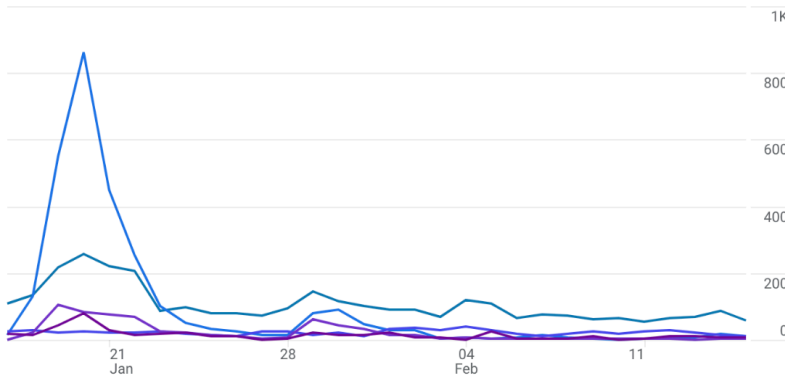
COUNTRY	USERS
United States	5

Users by City

CITY	USERS
Denver	453
Englewood	247
Ridgway	237
Phoenix	171
Montrose	167
Dallas	166
Ashburn	154

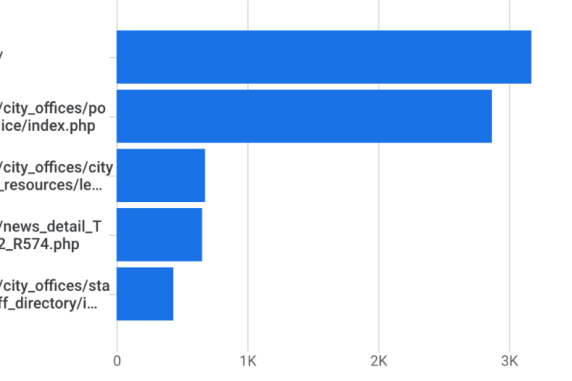
Pages and screens: Page path and screen class Last 30 days Jan 17 - Feb 15, 2024

Views by Page path and screen class over time



Legend: /, /city_offices/police/index.php, /city_offices/city_resources/lee_s_ski_hill.php, /news_detail_T2_...

Views by Page path and screen class



Page Path	Views
/	~3,200
/city_offices/police/index.php	~2,800
/city_offices/city_resources/lee_s_ski_hill.php	~800
/news_detail_T2_R574.php	~700
/city_offices/staff_directory/i...	~500

Event count	Total users	Event count per user
13K	6.9K	1.9



ANOMALY DETECTED

Spike in Event count on 2024-01-19

Expected 682 Actual 1,308 **191.8%**

Fri 19 Jan

Event count **1,308**

Submit to Local Licensing Authority

**KAMIS SAMIS
 PO BOX 513
 Ouray CO 81427**

Fees Due	
Renewal Fee	625.00
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	\$ 625

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.

Colorado Beer and Wine License Renewal Application

Please verify & update all information below

Return to city or county licensing authority by due date

Licensee Name KAMIS SAMIS LLC		Doing Business As Name (DBA) KAMIS SAMIS	
Liquor License # 03-18280	License Type Hotel & Restaurant (city)		
Sales Tax License Number 95332843	Expiration Date 02/08/2024	Due Date 12/25/2023	
Business Address 636 MAIN STREET Ouray CO 81427			Phone Number 9703256242
Mailing Address PO BOX 513 Ouray CO 81427		Email KAMI@KAMUSSAMIS.COM	
Operating Manager KAMI HARRISON	Date of Birth	Home Address	Phone Number
1. Do you have legal possession of the premises at the street address above? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Are the premises owned or rented? <input type="checkbox"/> Owned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rented* *If rented, expiration date of lease 5.31.2027			
2. 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. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
3a. Are you renewing a takeout and/or delivery permit? (Note: must hold a qualifying license type and be authorized for takeout and/or delivery license privileges) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
3b. If so, which are you renewing? <input type="checkbox"/> Delivery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Takeout <input type="checkbox"/> Both Takeout and Delivery			
4a. 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? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
4b. 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.? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
5. 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. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
6. 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. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			

Submit to Local Licensing Authority

**COLORADO BOY SOUTHWEST
 PO BOX 1326
 Ouray CO 81427**

Fees Due	
Renewal Fee	625.00
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	\$ 625.00

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.

Colorado Beer and Wine License Renewal Application

Please verify & update all information below

Return to city or county licensing authority by due date

Licensee Name COLORADO BOY SOUTH, INC		Doing Business As Name (DBA) COLORADO BOY SOUTHWEST	
Liquor License # 03-11482	License Type Hotel & Restaurant (city)		
Sales Tax License Number 416549370000	Expiration Date 04/15/2024	Due Date 03/01/2024	
Business Address 515 MAIN STREET Ouray CO 81427			Phone Number 3034195730
Mailing Address PO BOX 1326 Ouray CO 81427		Email	
Operating Manager <i>Dennis Richards</i>	Date of Birth	Home Address	Phone Number
1. Do you have legal possession of the premises at the street address above? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Are the premises owned or rented? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Rented* *If rented, expiration date of lease _____			
2. 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. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
3a. Are you renewing a takeout and/or delivery permit? (Note: must hold a qualifying license type and be authorized for takeout and/or delivery license privileges) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
3b. If so, which are you renewing? <input type="checkbox"/> Delivery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Takeout <input type="checkbox"/> Both Takeout and Delivery			
4a. 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? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
4b. 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.? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
5. 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. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
6. 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. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			

CITY OF OURAY

ORDINANCE NO. 01 (SERIES 2024)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO AMENDING OURAY MUNICIPAL CODE, CHAPTER 3-13, SUBSECTION E TO PROVIDE THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR, OR DESIGNEE, AUTHORITY TO APPROVE ADMINISTRATIVELY SPECIAL EVENT PERMITS ALLOWING THE POSSESSION AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL ON CITY PROPERTY AND REQUIRING AN APPLICATION BE RECEIVED BY THE CITY NO LESS THAN THIRTY (30) DAYS PRIOR TO EVENT.

WHEREAS, currently City Council approves all applications to consume alcohol on City property through a special event permit at regularly scheduled City Council meetings; and

WHEREAS, City Council desires to streamline the application process by delegating to staff (City Administrator or designee) the authority to approve alcoholic beverage consumption on City property through a special event permit and require an application submittal be to the City no less than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the event; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that these changes to the Liquor License provisions of Ouray Municipal Code 13-3-E are for the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

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

SECTION 1:

Section 13-3-E is repealed and replaced as follows:

E. Special Event Permits and Private Events on City Property

Alcoholic beverages shall be consumed and possessed on City Property during a special event when the City Administrator, or a designee, has granted a permit. Only Not-for-Profit Colorado organizations in good standing with the Colorado Secretary of State may receive a permit. The permit holder shall maintain order during the event and clean up any public areas after the event, leaving the area free from refuse and debris. Other conditions may be imposed as necessary to protect public health, safety, or welfare. The City Administrator has the discretion to refer any application to the City Council for approval. All applications must be delivered to the City no less than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the event. Upon violation of any condition, the permit may be terminated immediately by the City of Ouray Police Department.

SECTION 2: EFFECTIVE DATE.

The provisions of this Ordinance shall become effective pursuant to the City Charter, § 3.5.

SECTION 3: 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 _____ vote of the Ouray City Council this 20th day of February 2024.

CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO

Ethan Funk, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa M. Drake, City Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTATION

I, Melissa M. Drake, Ouray City Clerk, hereby certify that Ordinance No. 01 (Series No. 2024), was introduced, read, and passed by the Ouray City Council on first reading on 20th day of February 2024. The Ordinance was published, in summary, in the *Ouray County Plaindealer* on February _____, 2024, and thereafter introduced, read, and adopted by the Ouray City Council on March _____, 2024, and thereafter published in the *Ouray County Plaindealer*, as required by law.

Melissa M. Drake, City Clerk



Silas Clarke <sclarke@cityofouray.com>

Main St App Questions

1 message

Erin Cawley <erin.m.cawley@gmail.com>
To: Silas Clarke <sclarke@cityofouray.com>

Sun, Feb 18, 2024 at 9:28 PM

Here we go!

Full time job, you can contact me, and I rent my housing.

Applying for Main St committee

Major Issues: Water quality, local housing availability, heavy summer tourism (keeping visitors educated as well as aware of all opportunities, balancing this time of year with others, keeping locals in the loop and cared for during heavy tourism).

Contribution: My background is in the arts and arts education. I will bring that to the committee, as well as my current role as ED for OCPAG. In the latter role, I work for my organization and collaborate with other nonprofits in the county to keep locals and visitors alike entertained while visiting our beautiful area of the western slope. I am also in the service industry in town and bring my network of relationships and knowledge of local concerns to the table in that capacity, as well.

Sent from my iPhone

Administrative Services

320 6th Avenue | P.O. Box 468 Ouray, CO 81427
drakem@cityofouray.com | 970-325-7066



HUCKSTERING APPLICATION

Please submit the completed Application to the City of Ouray.

Page 2 of this Application contains the **Huckstering Permit**. Both sides must be signed by Applicant and City Staff.

BUSINESS INFORMATION		
Name of Business:		
Primary Business Address:		
Event Name (if applicable):		
Description of Activity:		
Date of Huckstering Activity:		
Location of Huckstering Activity:		
Is the Applicant a non-profit organization?	(X) One	() Yes () No
Proof of Sales Tax License attached? (required)	(X) One	() Yes () No

APPLICANT INFORMATION	
Applicant Name: _____	
Mailing Address: _____ City/State/ZIP: _____	
Phone: _____	Email: _____
Adjoining Property Owner permission (if applicable): _____ Date: _____	
<i>Signature of Adjoining Property Owner</i>	

SIGNATURE	
Applicant's Signature (required on both pages of application): _____	Date: _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY CITY STAFF	
Application Received By: _____	Date: _____
Huckstering Permit Application Complete? () YES () NO Comments or reason for incomplete application: _____	

(Continued on back)

HUCKSTERING PERMIT

The City issues a Huckstering Permit to _____ for the huckstering activities described in the accompanying Application and the Applicant agrees to the following conditions:

1. To defend, indemnify and hold harmless the City of Ouray, its officers, agents and employees on account of any claim made or adjudged against the City of Ouray, its officers, agents and employees arising out of this Permit and to waive and release the City, its officers, agents and employees on account of any claim for damages to Applicant's person, employees, contractors, or property involved in the exercise of rights and privileges by this Permit;
2. To only conduct activities as described in the Application;
3. To maintain all Applicant's property involved in the permitted activity in good and safe condition to create no safety hazards;
4. To allow for six (6) consecutive feet of convenient unobstructed passage area for pedestrians and not obstruct any vehicular traffic;
5. To conduct and locate operations, vehicles, inventory and structures in accordance with building setback requirements in the applicable of zoning district and remove from the premises when not open for business;
6. To not sell or serve alcohol on the City streets, parks, alleys or sidewalks;
7. To comply with all other City regulations and ordinances; and
8. To reimburse the City for any damages to any City owned property.
9. Additional Conditions: _____
10. If Applicant/Permittee is selling fruits, vegetables, cider or honey, the Applicant/Permittee additionally agrees:
 - a. All sales of fruits, vegetables, cider or honey shall only be conducted within the C-2 zone.
 - b. Operations shall not be conducted for longer than 90 days.
11. Any permit may be revoked or suspended by the City to the permittee for violations of any condition of the permit or of any provision of Section 3-15 of the Ouray City Code.

CERTIFICATION	
By signing this Permit, the Applicant, Permittee agrees to comply with all the conditions on this permit and all other City regulations and ordinances and represents that all information in its Application is true and correct:	
Applicant/Permittee Signature:	Date:
City Staff Signature:	Date of Approval:

FEES (per section 3-15 of the Ouray Municipal Code): *Payable to the City of Ouray*

- **Local (within City limits) Profit Organization:**
\$25 for a one day use,
\$100 for two or more days in a 30 day period
- **Non-Local (outside City limits) Profit Organization:**
\$150 for a one day use,
\$500 for two or more days in a 30 day period
- **Non-Profit Organization:**
Fee waived

Future Agenda Items/Work Sessions

- Dark Sky Ordinance (Does Council want to Adopt?)
- Huckstering Permit Re-examine Permit and Fees
- Additional Fee & Fine Schedules
- Waterview PUD Fines as Outlined in Guidelines
- Alcohol at the pool (Delayed Until Alternative Heat Source Report Decision)
- (Non-Land Use) Code Revisions
- Workforce & Attainable Housing
- Alcohol – Entertainment/Consumption District on Main Street (In discussions)
- Short-Term Parking Signs Resolution (Staff Creating List)
- Branding (Logo) Trademark Guidelines