

SBT GRVL—Traffic and Course Operations Plan

June 28th-29th, 2025—Routt County, CO

Why SBT GRVL is proposing a 2-day Event with a Ride in Steamboat on Saturday and a Race in Hayden on Sunday

SBT GRVL is committed to working with local residents and authorities to host a safe, inclusive, fun weekend experience that will continue to draw both first time cyclists and professional athletes from around the world, in addition to providing a positive impact on our local economy and community. At the suggested 1,800 riders and elimination of the racing component, SBT GRVL's trade offs would include: reducing the investment in safety and medical support, eliminating donations to local nonprofits, and eliminating local jobs. In addition to the detrimental impact to local businesses, SBT GRVL's financial contribution to the local economy, based on the significant reduction in participants, would be diminished by 40%. In order for SBT GRVL to continue as a viable business, maintain the same level of medical and safety operations, and offer the same positive financial impact to local businesses and nonprofits, the minimum number of participants required for a successful event weekend is around 2,500.

The racing component is a critical part of the event's appeal for sponsors, media, and both professional and amateur participants. Removing a race entirely from the SBT GRVL event would cause the business to be discontinued within the next year.

As such, the SBT GRVL team has assembled a plan that addresses every concern that has arisen in public meetings and conversations with local agencies, Colorado State Patrol, and rural residents. The permit proposal outlined below not only accounts for the rider limitations imposed at our pre-permit hearing, but also allows SBT GRVL to stay in business and maintain the positive impact that the event has had on our community since 2019.

Event Overview and Operational Plan:

We understand that a single day 3,000-person cycling event with a racing component has been difficult for the county to accommodate within the current resource constraints. In 2024 we demonstrated that our team is capable of executing an event at that scale, and while we recognize there are still small issues to resolve, cutting SBT GRVL to 1,800 participants greatly reduces our ability to afford all the investments we've previously made in privately hiring operational safety, medical, police and traffic services as we have done since 2019. Following the Routt County Commissioner meeting on September 9th we have been engaged in conversations with key stakeholders, and for 2025 we are submitting a plan that addresses the concerns of Routt County, Colorado State Patrol, as well as local residents. A cornerstone of our business is the racing component; however, we understand the operational undertaking for a true race vs. a rules-of-the-road ride is different for the local and regional jurisdictions and agencies. Therefore, we've split these activities and participant groups into two different days. These proposed changes outlined below both increase law enforcement support at SBT GRVL's investment, while cutting total rider numbers by 40% on our largest event day and 24% overall. We are proposing a Saturday non-competitive ride with 1,800 participants starting and finishing on Yampa Street in Steamboat. On Sunday, we are proposing a race with 750 professional and amateur racers on a 37-mile circuit, starting and finishing in Hayden. There will be three waves of riders and we will be running these three waves as rolling enclosures, and with hired help, including Certified Flaggers/Uniformed Traffic Control Officers, Professional Moto Support team, USA Cycling Officials, minimizing impacts to local resources.

SBT GRVL is applying for permits with the following agencies:

- Routt County Road and Bridge
- City of Steamboat Springs
- Colorado State Patrol

Agencies who are supporting the event through a support letter or direct involvement include Routt County Search and Rescue, Steamboat Police, Routt County Sheriff's office, Oak Creek Fire, West Routt Fire, North Routt County Fire, Routt County Emergency, Steamboat Fire, and Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

Day-of Contact:

- Micah Rice—Course Director
- micah@sbtgrvl.com, (719) 231-9390 mobile

Brief Operational Timeline:

Wednesday, June 18th

- Final day to install resident notification signage on county roads (3x3 orange signs)

Tuesday, June 24th

- Install Variable Message Boards (Routt County owned) at locations TBD by the county. Removed on June 30, 2025

Wednesday, June 25th

- “Obey Rules of the Road” and “Respect the Routt” signage aimed at cyclists installed on county roads

Thursday, June 26th and Friday, June 27th

- Expo and activities in downtown Steamboat Springs.

Friday, June 27th

- Course signing crew installs directional signage for Saturday’s event

Saturday, June 28th

Casual rides starting and finishing in Steamboat Springs—capped at 1800 riders

6:30am—First wave of riders goes off

7:30am—Last wave of riders leaves downtown Steamboat Springs

9:00am—Course signing crew starts to take down signage and sweep for trash on Routt County Roads

9:00pm—First riders from Green Course start to arrive back in Steamboat Springs

3:00pm—As directional signage comes down for Saturday’s ride, Sunday’s directional signage goes up in Hayden

7:00pm—Last riders finish

11:00pm—Trash sweep complete on north side of SR40 and downtown Steamboat Springs streets open

Sunday, June 29th

Races in Hayden starting at fairgrounds—capped at 750 riders

7:00am—Pro men start (three laps, 113 miles)

7:10am—Pro women start (three laps, 113 miles)

7:45am—Amateurs start (two laps—76 miles)

1:00pm—all riders finished with awards to follow

6:00pm—all trash and signage removed from all courses

Event Safety and Traffic Control Plan—Saturday Casual Rides

SBT GRVL will rely on several key agencies and organizations to create a robust safety and communications plan for both days of riding. Law enforcement and medical support are the central focus to keep the community and our participants safe.

SATURDAY CASUAL RIDES TENTATIVE PLAN

Steamboat Springs City Police/Community Officer posts:

- 12th/Lincoln from 6:15am-7:35AM—help start waves take a left from 12th St. onto Lincoln Ave.
- Elk River Road/CR 44 6:15am-7:45am—Help start waves take a left from Elk River Road onto CR44
- Lincoln/13th from 8:30am-8:30pm—Help finishers turn onto Lincoln (closed lane) and proceed to finish

Routt Co Sheriff posts (NOTE: to minimize these posts, Certified Flaggers could be hired—see Colorado Barricade below):

- CR27/CR29 Near Oak Creek, 8:30am to 11:00am—assist riders taking a left hand turn from eastbound CR27 onto northbound CR29 (this is the intersection where the aid station is)
- CR/29/CR27 Near Oak Creek, 10:30am to 4:00pm—assist riders taking a left hand turn from southbound CR29 onto westbound CR27 (riders coming down from Trout Creek will turn left onto paved CR27)
- One roaming officer to help where needed
- Note—NO NEED TO STOP VEHICLE TRAFFIC FOR ANY EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME! Officer will be there for visibility and will usher riders through when road is clear.

Hayden Police posts:

- CR183/Shelton St. and SR40 (intersection in town), 9:00am to 12:00pm—assist riders crossing SR40 at the intersection of Shelton St.
- Note—NO NEED TO STOP VEHICLE TRAFFIC FOR ANY EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME! Officer will be there for visibility and will usher riders through when road is clear.

Colorado State Patrol posts:

- SR 40/CR 44, 7:00am to 9:50am—assist riders taking a right-hand turn from CR44 onto SR40 and warn traffic
- SR 40/CR 179, 7:00am to 10:00am—assist riders taking a left turn from westbound SR40 onto CR179
- SR 40/CR52 in Mt. Harris, 9:00am to 11:45am—assist riders taking a right hand turn from southbound CR52 onto SR40 (Riders will be riding on paved apron on right side of road for ½ mile before turning right onto CR70)
- Note—NO NEED TO STOP VEHICLE TRAFFIC FOR ANY EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME! Officer will be there for visibility and will usher riders through when road is clear.

Safety Motorcycles

- As in previous editions of SBT GRVL, we will employ safety motos to stay in front of the lead cyclists for each course.

Medical Coverage from Event Medical Specialists (partner organization of EMS Unlimited from past years) (please see detailed Medical Operations IAP for more details from last year):

- First aid personnel and first aid kits at all aid stations for duration of event
- EMT Personnel—Roaming medical personnel (paramedics) on motorcycle and UTV's in area of largest concentration of riders (northern course flowing to southern course)
- Medical Tent at start/finish line—staffed with paramedic, including supplies
- Ambulance(s) staffed by Event Medical Specialists/EMS Unlimited—starting on north side of SR40 in AM, moving to south side of SR40 in PM
- Partnership with North Routt, Oak Creek, Craig, and Steamboat Fire for additional ambulance assistance when needed.
- NOTE—with a reduction in rider numbers and removing the race from the front of each group, we anticipate fewer medical issues than the past few years.

Communications Coverage (please see detailed Command Post document for details):

- There will be a Communications Command Post set up in Steamboat Springs on Saturday with two or three operators to take calls. Calls will be routed to either emergency comms or non-emergency comms. Command Post personnel will have Routt Co Emergency agency radio and staff radio bands. A similar Command Post will be

set up in Hayden on Sunday. All riders will have a front number plate and a rear body number (new for 2025) so they are easily identifiable from front and back.

- Police and medical personnel will communicate on 800MHz band radios, reserved for public safety agencies on RMAC as in past years.

Volunteer Course Marshals and notification signage—people will be placed in the following areas during the event to provide visibility for cyclists and car traffic and notification signage/directional signage will be placed here:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1gEkKZfVmVHY4TmDJHMTgOCDoLOBf-xk&usp=sharing>

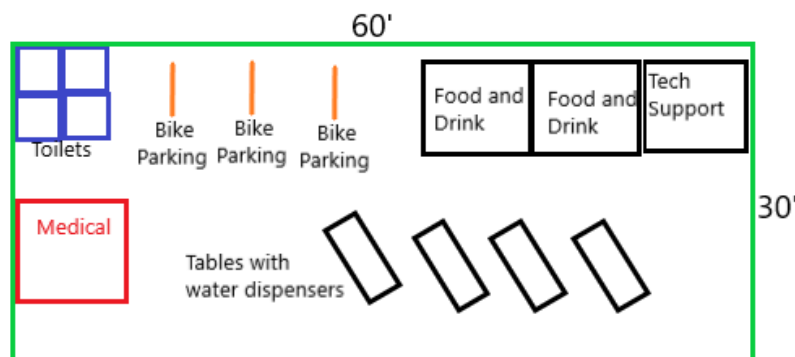
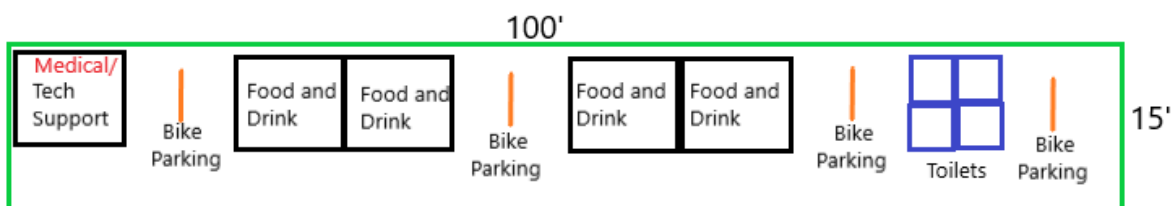
Spectator viewing areas:

- We will be very clear with riders and their families that there are only two places that we deem appropriate for viewing the event. One will be on Yampa Street in downtown Steamboat Springs at the start and finish of the ride. The other will be in Hayden at the Granary aid station for Blue Course riders. In both cases, ample parking is available in those towns. We will continue to discourage spectators from driving out onto the course to view the event at any other location.

Aid Stations on course—we will have seven aid stations on course that will provide food and drink to riders, mechanical support, and medical support

- Aid 1—on CR46 at mile 20 on the Blue courses
- Aid 2—Hayden Granary, mile 41 on the Blue course
- Aid 3—on CR37 at intersection of CR29, mile 60 on the Blue Course
- Aid 4—Corner of CR27 and CR29 near Oak Creek, mile 75 on the Blue course, and mile 32 on the Red course (there may be a possible private landowner who can host this aid station—we are working on this).
- Aid 5—on CR43 near the top of the hill, mile 87 on the Blue Course, mile 45 on the Red course and mile 24 on the Green course (we are considering a move down to Cow Creek for this aid station to get off the road)
- Aid 6—on CR44 near the intersection of SR40, mile 12.5 on the Red and Green courses (Saddle Mtn. Ranch)

Aid station footprints are either rectangular (30'x60') or row (15'x100') as space allows. Aid station 6 at Saddle Mountain Ranch is an example of a rectangular aid station as we are off the road on private property and Aid station 4 is an example of a row aid station as it is on the edge of the road in the right-of-way.



Event Safety and Traffic Control Plan—Sunday Circuit Race

Sunday's event will be run as a circuit race utilizing a more rural 37-mile loop south of Hayden. It will be run with rolling enclosures for three groups—Pro Men, Pro Women, and Age Group Amateurs. Since this circuit doesn't touch state highways, CSP let us know they do not have jurisdiction so we will work with the Routt County Sheriff's Department to make sure everyone is comfortable with the traffic control plan for Sunday.

Proposed Circuit— <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/48569459>

This circuit is 85% unpaved with approximately 30 residences. Riders will have a neutral rollout (a contained group whose speed is strictly controlled by law enforcement to start) from the County Fairgrounds and won't start racing until their group takes a left onto the circuit. We anticipate a plan with a rolling road closure for the three groups that will be on the circuit at one time. Think about a wide load tractor-trailer going down the road with law enforcement pushing oncoming traffic to the edge of the road to stop while the wide load goes through, then a vehicle ushering the vehicles back on after the wide load passes. Local traffic will be able to exit and enter their residences and/or fields but will be ushered off the road if they approach an oncoming group of cyclists. There will be a well-marked "back of race" official race vehicle at the back of each group of riders which public vehicles won't be able to pass. If a rider falls behind that vehicle they are considered out of the race and all rules of the road apply; they may be asked to leave the course if they get too far behind. Law enforcement and moto marshals will assist with each group of riders and there are four intersections that will be fixed posts by Certified Flaggers/Uniformed Traffic Control Officers:

- County Road 53 and Haul Road
- County Road 37 and Haul Road
- County Road 37 and County Road 29
- County Road 29 and County Road 53

Local Traffic will be asked to travel in the same direction as the riders while the race is in progress—this will minimize the chances of riders encountering oncoming traffic. Oncoming traffic that does get through will be ushered to the side of the road and asked to stop while the group of cyclists rolls through. SBT GRVL will oversee strong communication to the residents on this loop to make sure they know the event is coming and how to navigate the cycling traffic.

Communication to Riders—while we are creating a rolling enclosure, our safety communication to riders doesn't change much from years' past. Per the Routt County permit policy, riders in the rolling enclosure will have the ability to ride more than two abreast and will be waived through stop signs at intersections. However, riders will still be asked to ride on the right side of the road and will need to keep a heads up for oncoming traffic that could get through (this isn't unlike other road cycling events with rolling enclosures). Moto marshals will be monitoring this throughout the event and have the ability to give out time penalties for riders who don't obey the rules. After the "back of race" vehicle passes, riders will be on their own and have to obey all rules of the road since they are outside the enclosure.

Law Enforcement Needs—for three rolling enclosures, we will at minimum need three law enforcement officers in vehicles at the front of each group. With the commitment from CSP's motor team, this could be run without a need for any Routt County sheriff's deputies. Lead officers will wave oncoming traffic to the right of the road to stop while the rolling enclosure comes through. There will be an "back of race" vehicle at the back of the riders in contention—this vehicle will let stopped traffic know that it is safe to continue driving in the direction they were going and all riders behind this vehicle are subject to the rules of the road (riding on the right, obeying stop signs, etc.). This follow vehicle could be law enforcement, but we could also bring in USA Cycling officials with well-marked vehicles to fill this space. To fill these spots, we have several options to fill this need:

- Sheriff's Deputies (Sheriff Scherar will let us know what resources he has within his organization)
- CSP—Sergeant Pinner who oversees the CSP motor team feels confident he can supply at least three motors, one for the front of each wave

- Sheriff's sign-up sheet for officers outside of Routt County (The Sheriff has said that he could extend invitations to Moffat County Deputies, Craig law enforcement, etc. since we are well out from the event date)
- Hayden Police (Since we are not utilizing downtown Hayden, we can ask Chief Spurlock to lend us officers)
- Colorado Rangers (while there is an option to bring in Colorado Rangers, we are aware that Sheriff Scherer would prefer to not do this if possible)

Additional Resources SBT GRVL will hire—in addition to law enforcement, here are other resources that SBT GRVL will leverage to help with these rolling enclosures:

- Certified Flaggers/Uniformed Traffic Control Officers from Colorado Barricade: <https://www.coloradobarricade.com/services/special-events/> These trained traffic controllers can take posts at intersections and hotspots to manage vehicle and cycling traffic. They were instrumental in operating the Pro Challenge/Colorado Classic in Routt County years ago.
- Moto Marshal Support—there is a strong team of Colorado-based motor marshals that travel around the US helping out at large events such as Ironman, road cycling events, and gravel events. We had 10 of these moto drivers join us last year in protecting the front of the event and providing rides for content capture. This is also the same team that helped out at the Pro Challenge/Colorado Classic.
- USA Cycling Officials—these officials have been trained in managing road cycling events and travel around the country doing just that. They can be in cars or on motorcycles and they run these types of events every weekend.

EMS Support—we will have a minimum of one ambulance on site and medical motos on the road monitoring the groups of cyclists. We will have a first aid tent at the finish line in addition to a medical person at the one aid station

Aid Station—with a 37 mile loop, we will have only one spot on course that will allow riders to take on nutrition. This spot would need some parking for staff and volunteers. We are looking at the top of the hill on CR53 as that space currently, but will work with the county and local residents to make sure that is the most appropriate spot.