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BLM Colorado selects New Castle's Adam Cornely as Volunteer of the Year

LAKEWOOD, Colo. – The Bureau of Land Management has named Adam Cornely as the 2018 Volunteer of the Year in Colorado for his work with New Castle Trails.

The BLM presented Cornely with the award earlier this month at the New Castle Trails Winter Conference Movie Night.

As chairman of New Castle Trails, a subcommittee of the Roaring Fork Mountain Bike Association, Cornely helped develop and designate a 16-mile trail system outside New Castle that is open to mountain biking, horseback riding and hiking. Twelve of the 16 miles are on BLM lands in the New Castle Extensive Recreation Management Area.

Cornely has been working to improve recreation in New Castle since 2016—fundraising, coordinating volunteer work, working closely with the community and BLM, and improving the trail system for users. Cornely successfully worked with the BLM on Colorow Flow Trails, a new trails area that provides a skills-building trails progression for young and beginner riders.

"Adam has shown a firm commitment to improving his community through trail-based recreation and a remarkable energy in overcoming hurdles to make that happen. It is a pleasure to work with such passionate people," said Miles Gurtler, Recreation Planner in the BLM Colorado River Valley Field Office.

Every year, thousands of volunteers donate their time, skills, and services to help BLM Colorado sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of public lands. They provide critical support through activities like building and maintaining trails, keeping campers safe, finding homes for wild horses and burros, caring for cultural artifacts, and providing environmental education and interpretation.

Since 2006, BLM Colorado has presented a Volunteer of the Year Award to an outstanding volunteer each year. This award acknowledges volunteers who have made significant contributions to BLM Colorado programs, initiatives, and events.

Photo by Jenny Cornely