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# BLM Press Release

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## Youth Corps to Start Trail Project on BLM's Opal Hill (DRAFT)

**GRAND JUNCTION, Colo.** — Hikers and equestrians will soon have longer trails and easier access to BLM's McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area thanks to a grant from Colorado State Parks.

Youth with the Western Colorado Conservation Corps will begin construction on the new trails next week.

The project includes building 2 ½ miles of new hiking trails in the Opal Hill area across from Devil's Canyon and conducting maintenance on two miles of existing trails. Part of the project includes completing a loop trail around Fruita's Snooks Bottom fishing lake.

"This project will enhance recreational opportunities for residents of Fruita as well as other visitors to the NCA," said Katie Stevens, manager of McInnis Canyons NCA. "It will create a sustainable trail system in the NCA with better links to open space areas in Fruita. That means longer trails in better shape and better access for everyone."

The same grant is also funding construction of a restroom at Snooks Bottom in partnership with the City of Fruita, a key supporter of this grant.

Construction begins Nov. 2, and the youth corps will be working Monday through Thursday next week and the following two weeks.

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