Project Partner: Hinsdale County

History: The Ute and Ulay Mining Complex is one of Colorado’s 2015 Endangered Places, a program of Colorado Preservation Inc. This synopsis is courtesy of CPI.

The Ute and Ulay mines were some of the best known silver and lead producers in Colorado. Between 1874 and 1903, the mines were responsible for 12 million worth of minerals which today would amount to more than 280 million in value. Located in Hinsdale County, the mines were largely responsible for the development of Lake City. The booming mining-based economy attracted many people to the area and the mines continued to produce on and off through the 1980s.

LKA Gold donated the ten-acre site to Hinsdale County. The site consists of 18 structures including residential cabins, a blacksmith shop, a boarding house, a red-cedar water tank, and assayer’s office. Over the past twenty years, the structures have continued to degrade during adverse weather and many are unstable. This project is a rare opportunity for you to see, first hand, mining structures that haven’t be altered or otherwise interpreted before the general public.
The Ute and Ulay mines, mill complex and surrounding Henson town site are rare examples of a more complete mining community with large amount of historic fabric remaining. The site's location along the Alpine Loop Backcountry Byway increases its opportunity for education and as a heritage tourism destination.

**Scope of Work:** Volunteers helped with emergency stabilization of several buildings within the historic mining complex.