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### **Eight Coaches Selected to Work with US Ski Team on World Cup through NNF's Trail to Gold Coaching Grant**

The National Nordic Foundation (NNF), in conjunction with the Women Ski Coaches Association ([WSCA](#)), and Olympic Women's Cross-Country [Book Project](#) are excited to announce the selection of eight women coaches spanning the US ski community to receive this year's [Trail to Gold Coaching Grant](#). The selection committee determined that the following coaches represent an extensive and diverse set of experiences in US Skiing, and each coach will have the opportunity to join the US Ski Team staff for up to a two week portion of the upcoming [2023-24 World Cup](#) season:

#### 2023-24 Trail to Gold Coaches:

- Bernie Nelson – Auburn Ski Club.
- Annika Martell – Williams College.
- Liz Stephen – Park City Ski and Snowboard.
- Erin Moening – Minneapolis Ski Club.
- Julia Hayes – Bridger Ski Foundation.
- Ruth Oppliger – Northern Michigan University.
- Eliza Rorabaugh – Nordic Ski Club of Fairbanks.
- Callie Young – Dartmouth College.

The Trail to Gold Coaching Grant is a hands-on professional development program designed to have coaches take part in all aspects of World Cup coaching, including waxing, logistics, and race preparation with US Ski Team athletes. Coaches were selected from an exceptional applicant pool that represented all levels of the US skiing development system. The US Ski Team coaching staff is looking forward to welcoming this class of Trail to Gold coaches, with Head Coach Matt Whitcomb stating, "US skiing experienced a boost last season on the World Cup resulting from the success of the inaugural Trail to Gold coaching grant. We are excited to develop this year-two class of coaches this season, and look forward to widening our advantage over the nations who are stuck in the past. It won't be long before this initiative is replicated elsewhere, and we're proud to have started it with the Trail to Gold."