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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Forest Plan revisions

To whom it may concern,

I write you this morning as a representative of our ever growing OHV community.

Living in Colorado much of my adult years has allowed me the opportunity to recreate in much of our wonderful State. Whether I represent my local Back Country Horsemen club, San Juan Trail Riders or national clubs, they all have one thing in common; Recreation in Public Lands is important to me!

Recently my OHV club brought to my attention upcoming meetings that are occurring in districts that though I don't live in, I visit and work in.

I represent one of many OHV enthusiasts that want to see our Public Lands open to ALL user groups, not just a select few.

Some of my points and concerns are listed below:

1) The motorized recreational community remains the strongest single partner with land managers providing extensive staffing to manage recreational activity exemplified by:

- * the GMUG has several good management maintenance crews, some crews are now approaching \$1,000,000 in direct funding for that crew;
- * OHV grants consistently exceed \$500,000 per year to the GMUG budget; and
- * The most intensive trail dozer program in Region 2 and probably the country.

2) I am opposed to the large scale loss of recreational access to the GMUG due to expanded Wilderness like designations. I am aware there have already been calls for expansion of these types of management classifications.

- * such a designation would run counter to the no buffer requirements for the Colorado Wilderness Act;
- * would also hinder management of exceptionally poor forest health on public lands and existing Wilderness on the GMUG is some of the hardest hit by the mountain pine beetle epidemic;
- * Colorado Roadless Rule specifically and clearly recognizes motorized usage as a characteristic of Colorado Roadless Areas; and
- * there has been almost non-existent Congressional support for expanding Wilderness areas on the GMUG despite several petitions being prepared and circulated.

Multiple use recreational access benefits everyone and projects that only benefit single user groups should be avoided due to ever shrinking federal funding.

Thank you for keeping in mind ALL user groups in the upcoming meetings.

Sincerely,

Brad Carey

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