



Central Colorado Mountain Riders

November 07, 2021

Ref: Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison Forests (GMUG) - Plan Revision #51806

Dear US Forest Service GMUG Forest Plan Committee:

Please accept these comments concerning the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests (GMUG) Forest Plan Revision #51806 on behalf of the Central Colorado Mountain Riders (CCMR).

CCMR is a non-profit motorcycle club based in Salida, CO. Our mission is to preserve, maintain and create motorized trail opportunities in the central Colorado area through cooperation, education, etiquette, and stewardship. CCMR has over 200 members and businesses who are proud landowners, recreational users, and stewards of this precious resource that contribute to the CPW OHV funding annually with the purchase of hundreds of OHV stickers annually. While motorcycle riding is our passion, our members also enjoy a plethora of other recreational activities our public lands have to offer - including four-wheeling, hiking, fishing, hunting, mountain biking, and dispersed camping to name a few.

Since our inception in 2016, we have logged over 6000 volunteer hours with the USFS and collaborated in a cost-share agreement to design, create, and install 11 signs/kiosks to educate users about trail etiquette on multiuse trails. In addition, CCMR formally adopted numerous trails, built two new trails, and is actively working on more projects.

CCMR supports multiuse trail use within the GMUG Travel Management Area (TMA). Most of our members travel to and utilize the trails within this TMA on their mountain bikes, motorcycles, ATVs, and Jeeps. We strongly support that these existing trails remain open. Designated routes for motorized use are a small portion of public land and there are millions of acres designated as wilderness for other non-motorized use. It should be mentioned that OHV use contributes millions of dollars annually to the economy. The GMUG community would certainly be adversely impacted by closing or restricting access to motorized trails in this TMA.

CCMR supports comments submitted by our associated organizations the Trails Preservation Alliance (TPA), Colorado Off-Road Enterprise (CORE) and the Colorado Off-Highway Vehicle Coalition (COHVCO) in supporting GMA Alternative C with modifications and we have reviewed and support their site-specific recommendations to the US Forest Service.

Specifically, we support Alternative C with the following modifications: 1) The addition of verbiage from Alternative B protecting motorized access to the Continental Divide Trail and areas around the trail. 2) The addition of specific protection to any route that has already been approved as a motorized route in site-specific Travel Management by the FS. In particular, any of these routes that have been proposed to be encompassed by a Primitive or Semi Primitive Non-Motorized ROS category. 3) Consistency between Wildlife Management Area trail densities and best available science that are based on wildlife population counts published by CPW.

Sincerely,

Bob Daniel

President – CCMR