



Delta County

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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Mike Lane - DIST 1
Commissioner Don Suppes - DIST 2
Commissioner Wendell Koontz - DIST 3

Delta County Administration Building | 560 Dodge Street - Delta, CO 81416

January 4, 2023

Mr. Kyler McCarrel
Paonia Ranger district
P. O. Box 1030
Paonia, CO 81428

RE: Dry Fork AMP

Mr. McCarrel,

The Delta County Board of County Commissioners appreciates the opportunity to provide comments regarding the Dry Fork Allotment Management Plan. Delta County has and will continue to actively support agriculture and grazing on public and private lands. Livestock grazing in particular helps reduce fuel loading for mitigating wild fires, maintains open spaces, provides for local food security, and contributes substantially to the socio-economic well-being of Delta County.

The current adaptive management plan successfully manages the Dry Fork AMP under three permits for 507 cow/calf pairs. Delta County supports maintaining the current permits and livestock consistent with the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National forests Land and Resource Management Plan. Range improvement projects, watershed management plans, and management actions will also benefit from consistency of permittees and grazing strategies.

Please continue to include me and Delta County in other opportunities to comment during this NEPA process or other actions with the USFS.

Regards,

Wendell A. Koontz
Delta County Commissioner