

To Whom It May Concern/USFS;

3/31/2022

Friends of Browns Canyon(FOBC) is appreciative of the ability to comment on the Dispersed Camping Management Project for the Salida Ranger District.

Specifically FOBC would like to comment on potential designated dispersed camping sites located in the Browns Canyon National Monument (BCNM), next to roads FS185(Aspen Ridge road) and FS185D.

Per the BCNM Record of Decision, Section 3.4.2, found on page 7-9 of the Appendix, “additional camping” is allowed 0.25 miles west of Aspen Ridge Road. FOBC is not in favor of toilets or recreation infrastructure.

These potential designated dispersed camping sites along 185 and 185D were initially inventoried 20 years for the 4 Mile TMP. Attached is a map referencing these sites with alpha numeric designation utilized in the 4 mile TMP.

Location 185GR7 is the solitary site off 185D that FOBC recommends for designated dispersed camping. Last year buck and rail was installed by the USFS along 185GR7 and it's terminus, to contain any future resource damage and allow for an obvious camping site. This site is within the 0.25 mile allowance.

Sites along FS185 included 185GR, which had buck and rail installed by USFS in 2021 for site containment. Likewise FOBC with BLM and USFS considerably shortened spur 185GRD with buck and rail last Fall 2021, and this site is ideal for designated dispersed camping.

There is a potential designated dispersed camping site on the east side of FS185. This spur is not in BCNM, however buck- rail was installed in

2021 at this site, and is an ideal camping site as it is next to FS 185/Aspen Ridge Road and is located next to an Aspen grove. This site is located between 185GRD and McMurry stock pond.

Another additional dispersed camping site is 185GRC(west side of FS185) which had buck and rail installed in 2021 to contain further resource damage. Buck and rail runs compliments existing range fence at this site.

At 185GRA buck and rail was installed in 2021. 185GRA spur has been recommended for a scenic overlook, and a designated dispersed camping site that would not infringe on day use of the scenic overlook, is located 100 yards directly south of 185 GRA. (These are points #7 and #8 on the other attached map.

Lastly UNK1 (point # 8) is an ideal location for a designated site. A buck and rail “gate” was installed at this site in 2021, however it was immediately torn down. Per Lisa Mellick, this gate did not need to be installed as the site is quite close to the road, and the geography of the site prevents further offroad resource damage.

All told this would allow for 7 designated dispersed sites. One off FS185D (185GR7), one to the east of FS185 and 5 sites west of FS185.

As the prep work of buck and rail has been completed for above mentioned sites, these locations are ready for use, ideally with permanent fire rings installed to dissuade the building of more user created fire pits.

Thanks for your consideration,

Michael Kunkel

Friends of Browns Canyon, kunk.lws@gmail.com 719-2391516

