

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/5/2021 11:00:00 AM
First name: Jerry
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Organization: United Four Wheeler Drive Associations
Title: Director of Environmental Affaris
Comments: To: Tami Conner

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For days I have attempted to email my comments to the Moab Ranger Office by way of the form accompanying the instructions on the website. The ReCaptcha keeps telling me it cannot connect and will not allow the email to go through. That is why I am sending it to you in hopes that you can send it on to the proper source.

Just for my peace of mind, could you provide the email address so that I may send these comments in without the hassle of the form and ReCaptcha that refuses me?

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Jerry Smith

Director of Environmental Affairs - United Four Wheel Drive Associations

First VP - Colorado Four Wheel Drive Association

Western VP - Colorado Four Wheel Drive Association

BoD - Grand Mesa Jeep Club

Editor - Grand Mesa Jeep Club

Happy Trails to you.

Please accept the following comments regarding the Manti-La Sal National Forest Plan presently taking place.

The United Four Wheel Drive Associations had submitted requests for changes of the [ldquo]No motorized use[rdquo] of what is known locally as the [ldquo]Little Forest[rdquo]. It is the area bordered by the JB Ranch on the Utah State line, the BLM to the south, and the Sky Mesa Ranch on the south, east, and north.

We have asked that a long closed two-track road/trail be reopened in a sustainable manner that would connect the road to Pace Lake in Sinbad Valley and beyond to the [ldquo]Little Forest[rdquo] boundary and then cross the Little Forest and enter the southern Sky Mesa Ranch and then onto a road that takes one back to the John

Brown Road.

I attended meetings about this planning years ago and submitted a Memorandum of Understanding between the BLM Field Office in Grand Junction and the Owner of the Sky Mesa Ranch for an easement on an existing road in the southern end of the ranch. The purpose of the memorandum was that the Manti- La Sal National Forest would follow through and secure the easement in perpetuity and then open the corridor to reestablish the two-track and complete the estimated 30-mile loop from Hwy 141 at the mouth of Salt Creek to the John Brown Road.

At the time of the meetings in Moab when I submitted this proposal, it was acknowledged that many requests by primarily hunters wanting access to this small National Forest be made. The four-wheeling public would add to that desire and we have laid much of the groundwork for this to happen.

If there is a problem finding the MOU for the easement, please contact Andy Windsor at the Grand Junction BLM office. I'm sure he would send a new copy of the MOU and answer most of any questions you may have.

When all of this comes together, members of the Grand Mesa Jeep Club of Grand Junction would volunteer to clear what brush is necessary and reopen the route that is still plain to see. To make it sustainable through some low places, small rerouting may be desirable. I have photos of much of the trail in question if that would be of value to your work.

My phone number is at the top of this letter and my email is - onejerrysmith@gmail.com

I would help with anything I might to assist in making this connector trail a working and legal trail.