

SAGUACHE COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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December 17, 2012

Jim Pitts, District Ranger Saguache Ranger District, Rio Grande National Forest 46525 Hwy 114 Saguache, Colorado, 81149

The Saguache County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) appreciates your time in meeting with us to discuss the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail Reroute Environmental Assessment. We are taking this opportunity to submit comments.

Our comments are based on County consideration of local/regional socioeconomic, tourism, recreation and environmental factors. The proposed rerouting of this trail through Saguache County has many potential benefits in these regards, and the BoCC enthusiastically supports it

Based on our understanding of the Alternatives presented, the BoCC is not in favor of Alternatives 1, nor 4.

The BoCC wishes to speak in favor of incorporating all amenities of Alternative 2, with the uses described in Alternative 3.

Bringing the features of Alternatives 2 and 3 together offers the recreating public high quality, unique, near wilderness, natural resource experiences to enjoy, in Saguache County.

The BoCC thanks you for your time and effort in completing the EA for the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail reroute, and for this opportunity to comment. We look forward to networking with the U.S. Forest Service, local and recreation communities to accomplish this showcase project impeccably, for mutual benefit of all involved, and the health of the forest.

Sincerely, Saguache County Commissioners -

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Linda Ubseph

Sam Pace

Michael Spearman, Chair