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Organization:

Title:

Comments: comments on the forest plan

To Whom It May Concern:

I am concerned about the increase in traffic on Transfer Rd, west of Montrose, CO. Montrose County improved the rd from the bottom all the way to the Forest Serv boundry, spending \$100,000. This improvement has increased traffic onto BLM and Forest Lands.

Due to lack of snow this year, the Forest Serv has left the gate open on Transfer Rd. It is usually closed by Dec. 15 or earlier. Leaving the gate open has allowed hunters, trappers, poachers, recreationists to continue to be in areas that normally they could not access---due to snow/weather/road/locked gate conditions. Wildlife is not getting a break!

Leaving the gate open has further stretched the staff of CO. Parks and Wildlife, because they have had to monitor activities on the road many miles higher than when the gate is closed. They don't have the funds or staffing to properly patrol Transfer Rd, and other roads on the Uncompahgre Plateau this year that remain open by the Forest Service.

The public must be educated---we've all got to leave places alone so that wildlife has a chance to survive the winter without harassment from humans passing thru, to breed, forage, raise young, live free on forest lands without constant pressure from humans year round!

Dave Wood Rd---Now that Eldred's have built their mansion/retreat they plow Dave Wood into their place. Again, this invites the public into areas that historically we have not been able to access because of weather/road conditions. When people live in remote areas, they should accept the remoteness and the means of transportation they should use to get to their property---without improving the road or plowing it. Eldred's are plowing a public rd that used to remain closed in winter. I lived on Horsefly Mesa for 6 yrs-----we snowmobiled in and out to work 2 1/2 to 7 miles one way. We accepted that because we chose to live where we did. We didn't need roads plowed--and we couldn't afford it.

The biggest problem: there's too many people. Thank you for adding my concerns to those of others. I love the forest lands. I have been fortunate to hike all over down in the Roubideau, all over Horsefly Mesa, Hanks Valley, Divide Rd area---exploring the Uncompahgre Plateau---I hope to spend the rest of my life camping and hiking the plateau. We must all take care of it!

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Brenda Miller, Executive Director

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