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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Having assisted with restoration and protection of the Gust Spring area (SE1/4 Sec. 14, T9N, R25E) and the Gust Reservoir (NW 1/4 same legal) following the San Juan wildfire, I am very familiar with the biology and use of these forest and associated private lands owned and used by the Gust family since the late 1940's. Wetland meadow and water habitats located on Forest lands at the spring and earth irrigation tank and on the adjacent private lands offer unique habitats for a myriad of wildlife species. My review of the Travel Management preferred Alternative 2 shows that both travelways into this area will be open to public travel (Road 8486A and 8486) when both should be closed to all public travel, and opened only for administrative use by either the Forest Service or for the Gust family who have a permanent ditch and pipeline easement within this corridor. Having worked closely with the Gusts over the last 25 years or more in conservation related activities on their private lands, including the private lands associated with the Gust spring and pipeline, I am well aware of their dedication to protecting and enhancing wildlife and rangeland habitats. At a minimum, Road 8486A should be closed and rehabilitated against all kinds of motor vehicle travel, and Road 8486 closed for administrative purposes only.