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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a frequent visitor to the Manti LaSal forest of many trips including 2021 May and September to the Monticello unit and the Moab area.

A specific comment I would like to make is the absence of non-motor trails for hikers. My group of people this year wished to hike the east area above Monticello because of high temperatures lower down. It was very difficult to find any hiking -only trails to assure we would not be confronted with motorized users. We ended up on the Robertson pasture trail and fortunately did not confront any despite its motorized status. Indeed, in talking to the Monticello Ranger District, they seemed hard-pressed to be able to name any trail that was non-motorized when I asked them. I urge in this plan to give more consideration in this whole area to restricting motorized use in some places where there is not a balance of trails.

I would also like to state my strong interest in seeing that the revised forest plan strongly consider all the recommendations for wilderness of appendix C. With climate change and added wildfire threat and heavy increasing use of motorized and mechanized bikes, the forest health, habitat for wildlife as well as critical connections for wildlife will be and are under tremendous strain. The intensity of the roaded system in large areas of the forest must be recognized as severely compromising those critical values. This plan must move forest health into a more realistic world. I would ask that the conservation alternative be given the utmost attention. Areas that are now primitive or semi-primitive must be maintained as much as possible to preserve what is left.

I would also urge the plan to adopt the most scientifically up-to-date forest management procedures to assure sustainable habitat for these species as they will be under increasing need for adequate refuge in changing conditions. Areas that are now primitive and unroaded should remain so as much as possible.

Finally, I ask that the plan recognize the historic use and ownership of these lands rather than adopting further policies or plans that only recognize the current use by recreationalists, both motorized and non-motorized.

I greatly appreciate the opportunity to comment and the respect the Forest Service wants to demonstrate in listening to the input of all of us so concerned and appreciative of our national forests.

Sincerely, Claude Neumann

I greatly support