

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/22/2021 11:00:00 AM

First name: Greg

Last name: Sauer

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please accept the following comments as part of the scoping process for the upcoming management plan revision for the Manti-La Sal National Forest. As an avid and regular user of our public lands, this National Forest management plan is of acute interest to me. In addition, please add me to your mailing list for this important process. Any preferred Alternative must include the following:

* In light of the Administration's science-based effort to protect 30 percent of our land base by 2030 (30X30), all inventoried roadless areas of 5000 acres or larger must be protected from any roadbuilding, logging, vegetation management or removal, or mineral/resource extraction of any sort. This equates to roughly 600,000 acres of the Manti-La-Sal, according to data from the 2000 National Forest Roadless Area Conservation initiative documents.

* Since the bulk of the Manti-La Sal is riddled with roads already, it is imperative that high quality wildlife habitat connectivity be established and maintained between these inventoried roadless areas, and between them and any adjacent roadless Bureau of Land Management lands. Habitat loss, exacerbated by climate change, is the number one contributor to loss of biodiversity and extinction in our public lands.

* There must be absolutely no resource extraction, vegetation management or vegetation removal of any sort on any wilderness-quality lands outside of any inventoried roadless areas.

* Given the proliferation of roads and motorized trails over much of the Manti-La Sal, and given the current imbalance between the areas of the forest managed for motorized access versus those that aren't, it's critical that significant tracts of the forest receive a non-motorized recreational management emphasis.

* Priority must be given to climate mitigation for any and all management activities including, but not limited to, any ground-disturbing or vegetation management projects.

Thank you for the opportunity to be involved in this important process. Please keep me informed of the next steps as the revision of the Manti-La-Sal National Forest Management Plan proceeds.