

Date submitted (UTC): 12/15/2014 11:24:41 PM

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Comments:

San Juan National Forest proposed travel plan

Derek,

Please accept this email as input to your San Juan National Forest proposed travel plan. I'm a Colorado resident and avid outdoor recreationist. My family, friends, and I regularly and responsibly use our public lands for hiking, mountain biking, and off-highway (OHV) motorcycle riding. Many of my friends and family, such as my father, only access our public lands and enjoy recreation on OHVs.

I know firsthand how important OHV use is to family recreation, yet our OHV trail riding opportunities have been slashed in recent years. I request that you not give in to the vocal minority groups that oppose motorized recreation. There is a long history of motorized recreation without user conflict in the San Juan National Forest that should and can be maintained. I also ask that seasonal closures of routes for wildlife only be in areas where there is winter range for deer and elk. Closure of the entire district will not benefit wildlife as most of the district is not winter range. Lastly, loss of motorized access to the Ryman Creek Trail is a significant loss to motorized users. There are many options to maintain motorized access in this area that could be put in place instead of closing it.

Thanks in advance for giving motorized users fair consideration as a responsible and valid public user group.

Sincerely,

Mike Hawkins

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