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Public Comment Regarding the Rico-West Dolores Roads & Trails Project

To: Derek Padilla, District Ranger

From: Kate Mabry

As the public steward for the Rico-West Dolores Roads & Trails Project, I respectfully ask you to please identify a minimum road system for future responsible management of the Rico-West Dolores project federal/public lands area.

To achieve resiliency, however, the Forest Service should consider decommissioning more system roads to identify a smaller, financially sustainable future road system that fits within the agency's limited budget and minimizes environmental damage. The revised environmental analysis should also consider a wider range of alternatives when it comes to road activities, including an alternative that decommissions more system roads.

We applaud the Forest Service's efforts to protect the Rico-West Dolores landscape from destructive motorized use and excessive road miles. The seasonal restrictions on motorized use and removal of motorcycles from some trails in Alternative B will better balance the uses on the forest, provide stronger protections for wildlife, and will help restore water quality.

Thank you for your consideration regarding the wise management of the Rico-West Dolores Project Area by using common sense, consideration of public comments and sound scientific and environmental measures in your decision. As a federal park ranger I am also most grateful for your concern and care of our beautiful national forest!

Respectfully,

Kate Mabry