



**Colorado Off-Highway Vehicle Coalition**  
**13670 Cherry Way**  
**Thornton, Colorado 80602**  
**(303) 722-1327**

August 30, 2007

Gunnison Travel  
GMUG National Forest  
2250 Highway 50  
Delta, CO 81416

Dear Planning Team:

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the “Preliminary Proposed Transportation System” for the Gunnison Basin Federal Lands. This planning process was announced in the May 2, 2007 Federal Register, and generally responds to the implementation of the Final Travel Rule, Federal Register of November 9, 2005.

We are confused and frustrated at this date, with a potential change in your scoping process. We were notified by an email from Anne Janik, Planning Team PAO, August 29, 2007, that another set of existing route maps has been produced this week, just a couple of days before the response due date of August 31, 2007. These new maps are available for review on the Planning Team website. As a mitigation to the lateness of these maps, the email suggested that comments could be submitted after the DEIS in the Spring of 2008. This is contrary to the established purpose of scoping to help develop data and issues for alternative formulation. This and the associated discussion about the 2001 Interim Plan not designating routes, but establishing routes causes concerns about what set of roads and trails have authorizing decisions. The 2001 Interim Plan further clouds the issue by purporting to adopt authorities creating designated road and trails through previous travel or resource management decisions. This may constitute the need for a response period extension if there is new information or new definitions under the Travel Rule process. Our intent is to be responsive to your established schedule, however, we will reserve the right to submit data, maps and additional response if necessary.

Attached are our comments and concerns about your planning process, principles that guided our recommendations, and a set of maps with specific road and trail recommendations. This attached document and map is intended to supplement our previous comments, letters, and input during your open house meetings. Copies of previous correspondence have been included in this package submission as a convenience in containing all pertinent material and history under one cover.

We are aware of separate documents and maps provided to you that document user generated routes in the planning area. We would like to review and acquire that set of maps at your earliest possible convenience.

The purpose of this package of recommendations and critique is to help facilitate the development of a full set of alternatives under the provisions of NEPA. It is our position that all the actual use and historical motorized recreation opportunities be disclosed and analyzed during this DEIS process. We are concerned that another interim process of route manipulation and route and trail designations to meet the 2005 Travel Rule is well short of the integrated Travel Management Planning required by Forest Service and BLM Manual direction.

We look forward to scheduling a meeting with the Gunnison Travel Team to clarify our input and recommendations. Please advise us of a date and time when we might get together. We would be happy to meet in Delta or Gunnison.

The primary contacts for questions and meeting coordination are:

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Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Larratt  
President