

JARED POLIS
2ND DISTRICT, COLORADO

1433 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0602
(202) 225-2161
(202) 226-7840 (FAX)

website and email:
<http://polis.house.gov>



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

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July 31, 2013

David Neely
District Ranger
Eagle/Holy Cross Ranger District
P.O. Box 720
Eagle, CO 81631

Dear Mr. Neely:

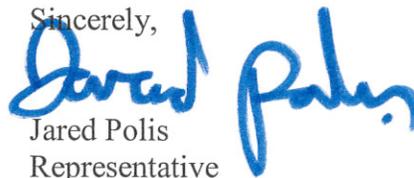
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed updates to the June 2013 Motor Vehicle Use Map. I commend the U.S. Forest Service's decision to reevaluate its 2011 Travel Management Plan Record of Decision (ROD) driven by additional information and feedback from citizens, businesses and municipalities. I appreciate the U.S. Forest Service's willingness to receive input from the community and to work collaboratively with the community to reach a final decision.

The 2011 ROD closed seven road segments south of Eagle to off-highway vehicles. Many of my constituents as well as tourists, who are important to our economy, have enjoyed these roads for years. I am encouraged that the U.S. Forest Service is listening to feedback that could allow for the public's continued recreation on these roads. These closures were overly restrictive and would potentially harm the recreation economy of the mountain communities. I am supportive of the June 2013 Motor Vehicle Use Map proposal to reopen 133 miles of roads to vehicles.

Multiple use accessibility on our public lands is critical to our state's recreation economy. The Travel Management Plan should reflect the needs and uses of the area's residents and visitors. The Travel Management Plan should also include recreation opportunities for non-licensed vehicles where it is safe and appropriate. In this case, the 133 miles of roads have long been used for vehicles and that use should not be changed.

In conclusion, thank you for reviewing the 2011 ROD and presenting the June 2013 Motor Vehicle Use Map for public comment. I am supportive of the map adjustments that allow both licensed and non-licensed vehicle use on 133 miles of roads. Once again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the 2013 Motor Vehicle Use Map.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis".

Jared Polis
Representative