

To: Gunnison Commissioners and U.S. Forest Service

I want to share the amended position of the Crystal Valley Environmental Protection Association on the Marble, Gunnison Off Highway Vehicle issue. I believe it will be of interest to you.

The timing of Governor Polis' May 7th signing into law the disallowance of OHVs on public roads is uncanny. Colonel Packard of CSP followed with law enforcement's support. The County's May 18 revisit of the Resolution allowing OHV travel on County Road 3 deserves close attention.

The Gunnison County Commissioners are trusted, empowered and responsible for strengthening the Resolution to protect the residents and visitors of the Marble Valley.

Complications with OHV use on the National Forest and in mountain communities is not unique. The issue is now on the forefront of management concerns and deserves forethought and bold and balanced action to protect health, safety and the environment. We encourage the commission to take it's time even if further study is necessary.

CVEPA recommends a **no idling clause** in the parking area for both the trucks hauling OHVs as well as the OHVs. OHVs have weaker emission standards than trucks or cars. Idling is a primary complaint at parking areas. CVEPA does **not** support any dedicated OHV parking that would **infringe on parking amenities for other visitor user groups**.

CVEPA is asking the Commission to include the reasonable **restriction on OHV travel to 8:00 a.m to 6:00 p.m** this summer. No one wants unbridled use of Daniel's Hill after dark. This amendment will also give residents and visitors deserved quiet time.

As you know by now, The Marble Town Council unanimously voted in favor of development of a permitting system for OHV use. The trustees pledged their support to work with the county commissioners and the Forest Service. CVEPA has always been in favor of a system of regulation to manage the overuse of OHVs on the Lead King Loop.

Commissioners, please make **development of a permitting system a priority** and officially include this initiative in your management plans.

An **end date for the resolution** is of paramount concern to CVEPA. Please include the December date for examination of this summer's efforts and the termination of the resolution before this year's end.

CVEPA appreciates the time and effort that the commissioners are devoting to this complex problem and we are grateful for the heightened concern that elected officials and the USFS are showing for this issue.

Respectfully,
John Armstrong
President
Crystal Valley Environmental Protection Association