

Individual Comments from Stickers Travel and Recreation

[Facilitator's Note: The following comments have been directly transcribed from individual verbal comments and individual stickers that folks put on the flip chart sheets at the March NWCOS meeting. No interpretation has occurred, except where necessitated by unclear handwriting. This is not a consensus document.]

From group discussion:

- maybe there could be a rotational system of routes that are open to use so that impact of use isn't concentrated in one area
- OHVs need more area as use grows; dispersing use is better for the land than concentrating it in one area
- There's a trend of moving away from open OHV use on BLM lands
- OHV groups have an interest and some funds for doing mitigation projects or studies on the land
- Need to look at all forms of recreation; all forms have impact
- Current experiences for all uses, including motorized, could be improved; all forms of recreation are a privilege; recreation should be a focal point of the RMP

From individual stickers:

Comments on Goals

- social and economic assessment must accompany an open/limited/or closed designation
- goals need to include more issues related to supported community ideas, social issues, and economic issues.

Comments on Alternatives

- Be sure to consider "Adaptive" proposals
- Need scientific data when addressing wildlife, wild horses, forage, range, etc. and impacts by OHV
- Need scientific data when addressing impacts to forage, range, wildlife, wild horses, etc. by recreation
- Areas of concern (one sticker)
 - Fragmentation of critical habitats for species of concern (greater sage grouse, blackfooted ferrets)
 - Destruction of high quality habitats
 - Disturbance of/stress to Animals especially during breeding, rearing, and wintering periods
 - Destruction of rare plant occurrences
 - Invasives
 - Monitoring and enforcement (funded?)
- don't automatically grandfather in OHV routes without review, scientifically, of condition & impact. Most of these are user created routes.
- Alternatives should include some study areas – learn about OHV/recreation impacts or lack of impacts in some key areas

Advice to Workgroup

- Must Do Travel management Before “Open limited Closed” Must address RS 2477
- BLM should not designate open/limited/or closed without first doing a travel management plan
- RMP must address Recreation of all forms Determine Quality of experience Limit Total #'s of people
- Need to address issue of lack of inventory when make decisions on open vs limited vs designated
- The term “the resource” is very general. There is not one “impact” to “the resource”. The impacts of a use need to be assessed with respect to all of the resources we are trying to protect, steward, or manage. Be clear on goals for land, vegetation, and wildlife condition.
- Identify uses and valid and existing rights, grazing permits, oil and gas, etc. up front before start on issues.