

# News Release

USDA Forest Service  
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre  
& Gunnison National Forests  
2250 Highway 50  
Delta, CO 81416-2485

USDI Bureau of Land Management  
Gunnison Field Office  
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## **GUNNISON BASIN FEDERAL LANDS TRAVEL MANAGEMENT DRAFT EIS RELEASED FOR COMMENT**

**Delta, CO., (March 6, 2009)** – The Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service announced today the release of the Gunnison Basin Travel Management Draft Environmental Impact Statement for a 90-day public review and comment period. The Travel Management Plan will identify the transportation system for BLM and Forest Service lands within the upper Gunnison Basin and North Fork Valley, including designating open routes, modes of travel, and specific seasonal restrictions.

“We are pleased to have this document out for review and comment,” stated Jim Dawson, Gunnison District Ranger for the Forest Service. “Our stakeholders have had two field seasons to provide us suggestions and input on routes and needs for travel management and the Forest Service and BLM interdisciplinary team have worked hard to incorporate the public issues and desires into a range of alternatives.”

Keith Berger, Acting Field Manager for the BLM Gunnison Field Office said, “Much of the federal land in the Gunnison area is managed by both the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service. We are conducting this joint planning effort to look at issues from a basin wide perspective and provide consistency across agency boundaries, which should be a benefit to the public.”

In order to facilitate public review and comments on the Draft EIS, the BLM and Forest Service have scheduled several public meetings. The format for these meetings will generally be an “open house” with a 30 minute summary presentation on the DEIS included. Staff will be available to answer questions and explain the travel analysis process and factors used to develop the four alternatives and associated maps. The following meetings are scheduled from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. with a 30 minute presentation at 5:30 p.m.

Paonia	March 18	Town Hall
Lake City	March 23	Lake City Community School Room 6/8
Crested Butte	March 24	Crested Butte Community School Auditorium
Gunnison	March 25	Aspinall-Wilson Center South Room

Comments will be most helpful if they are specific and received by June 4, 2009. Submit comments to:

Gunnison Basin Travel Management DEIS  
2250 Hwy 50  
Delta, CO 81416  
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E-mail: [r2\\_gmug\\_gunnison\\_travel@fs.fed.us](mailto:r2_gmug_gunnison_travel@fs.fed.us)

Copies of the document and maps are available on CD by request and are also posted on the GMUG Forest website at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/gmug/>. Hard copies for reference are available at Forest Service and BLM offices (Gunnison, Lake City, Salida, Paonia, Delta, Grand Junction, Montrose) and at local libraries in Gunnison, Lake City, Crested Butte, Saguache, Salida, Montrose, Paonia, Hotchkiss, Delta and Grand Junction (Main).

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