

Appendix 3 – Basalt to Gypsum Motorcycle Trail System Proactive and Adaptive Management Plan

Management Category	Desired Conditions	Proactive Recommendations	Monitoring Protocol	Thresholds Triggering Management Action	Management Actions
Off-trail Use and Use of Closed Routes	Motorcycles, ATVs and mountain bikes do not travel off designated routes. Closed routes are not being used.	<p>There will be signs at each trailhead and on brochures and websites encouraging users to stay on designated trails. All informational materials will include a phone number that allows any individual to report violations to the Forest Service.</p> <p>At least 10 patrols per month during the riding season (ideally two-three per week) will be conducted by the Maintenance Patrol crew, other District FPOs, RMSR and CBTRA volunteers, and CPW staff (when possible). If evidence of off-trail use or use of closed routes is observed or reported, a 5300-1 (Incident Report) will be completed. Monthly reports summarizing the location and number of off-trail incidents will be documented.</p>	<p>A reportable incident will be defined as a first person observation or clear evidence on the ground (e.g. tire tracks).</p> <p>Areas where there are reoccurring violations will be identified, and documented and monitored more frequently to discourage continued use.</p>	<p>When an incident of off-trail use, or use of closed routes, is observed all evidence of such use will be obliterated ASAP, and no later than within two weeks. If use continues, signs will be posted. Areas requiring more substantial rehabilitation efforts will occur no later than October 15 each season.</p> <p>If incidents of illegal use reoccur at the same location, or multiple locations, more than 5 times per month, patrols will be increased by one day per week. If problems persist, additional patrols will be added until such problems are contained. If problems are consistently observed at specific locations, or on specific trails, and increased patrols are unable to contain the problem, the trail(s) in question may be closed.</p> <p>If chronic illegal off-trail use or use of closed trails occurs (5 or more times per month for 4 months), the entire trail system or substantial portions of it may be subject to closure. Closures will remain in effect until a new management strategy can be developed and implemented to deal with off-trail incidents.</p> <p>The number of off-trail incidents should steadily decrease as the trail system ages. If a trend toward fewer off trail incidents is not observed, reevaluation and additional actions will be considered including possible trail closures.</p>	

Management Category	Desired Conditions	Proactive Recommendations	Monitoring Protocol	Thresholds Triggering Management Action	Management Actions
Revegetation of Routes Identified For Closure	Closed trails are revegetated to a natural state and are free of noxious and invasive species. Drainage is adequate with no erosion.	Physical closure and scarification should result in natural revegetation.	<p>The closed trails will be monitored by the Maintenance/Patrol Crew for successful revegetation and noxious weeds starting two years after closure.</p> <p>Revegetation will be considered successful if there is at least 75% vegetation coverage consistent with adjacent vegetation after 24 months. Representative samples will be taken on the trail length to determine the amount of revegetation.</p>	<p>Less than 75% of revegetation coverage or consistent with adjacent natural areas.</p> <p>In locations where active cattle allotments are preventing revegetation, less than a 75% revegetation coverage is permissible without management action if cattle are determined to be the cause of the lack of revegetation.</p>	<p>If revegetation is not occurring naturally, then seeding with only native grass and shrub mix will occur the following fall. Closure of trails will occur with placing debris, signs, and drainage structures as well as scarification as needed to break up the soil.</p> <p>Noxious weed management will be performed by the district weed specialist if monitoring identifies the presence of noxious weeds.</p>
Signs and Infrastructure	All signs and infrastructure continue to function as intended, remain in the locations they were placed and are maintained in good working condition.	<p>All signs and other necessary infrastructure will be installed before trails are opened.</p> <p>CBTRA and RMSR will work with USFS to replace damaged or missing signs. The Dillon Ranger District phone number will be posted at the kiosk to report trail system issues.</p>	<p>Sign location waypoints will be established using GPS and infrastructure monitored.</p> <p>Maintenance/Patrol Crews will continually monitor all signs and other infrastructure.</p>	Chronic vandalism or theft in localized areas.	Missing or damaged signs and other infrastructure will be replaced as soon as practical. If chronic vandalism or theft occurs, other actions will be considered.

Management Category	Desired Conditions	Proactive Recommendations	Monitoring Protocol	Thresholds Triggering Management Action	Management Actions
User Conflicts	<p>Riders of OHVs slow down when encountering other users on system road.</p> <p>The reduction in speed is noticed by the other users.</p> <p>Complaints about excessive speed are rare.</p>	<p>Kiosk and information materials will inform all users to expect to encounter motorized users.</p> <p>The system is patrolled by volunteers, Forest Service and CPW staff as available.</p> <p>SHARE THE ROAD signs are posted on the Red Table and Basalt Mountain roads.</p> <p>The Forest Service will determine a cautionary speed limit which will be posted along Frey Gulch Rd.</p> <p>The Forest Service will determine the number of signs needed. Educational materials and visitor contacts will include emphasis on slow speeds the Red Table and Basalt Mountain roads.</p>	<p>The Forest Service will document the number of complaints within the Tenderfoot trails system.</p> <p>The system trails and roads will be patrolled by the Forest Service and volunteer Maintenance / Patrol Crews according to the frequency previously identified under Off-trail Use and Use of Closed Routes section of this table. These crews will document complaints about excessive speeds. Forest Protection officers will issue warnings to riders observed exceeding reasonable speed. Volunteers will provide verbal warnings to riders who are observed exceeding reasonable speed.</p>	<p>More than 5 complaints about excessive speed are received per riding season will trigger a range of potential additional management options as determined appropriate by the Forest Service.</p>	<p>One or more of the following management actions may be implemented, as determined by the Forest Service:</p> <p>Speed bumps may be installed in locations that are subject to habitual speeding if determined to be effective and feasible.</p> <p>Alternating days of use between the various user groups may be instituted.</p> <p>Install signs identifying "closed throttle" zones where there is shared use near trailheads and in other locations as deemed appropriate.</p>

Management Category	Desired Conditions	Proactive Recommendations	Monitoring Protocol	Thresholds Triggering Management Action	Management Actions
Deer and Elk Impacts	<p>Elk summer-winter movement patterns are maintained.</p> <p>The seasonal motorized trail closures from June 21st – October 10th are complied with and enforced as necessary.</p>	<p>Provide signs education the public and user about the seasonal closure at both parking areas.</p> <p>Allow for trail maintenance/clearing prior to trail system opening.</p>	<p>Forest Service staff and volunteers will monitor compliance with seasonal closures.</p> <p>All violations of the closure will be documented and reported.</p>	<p>Significant changes in elk behavior, and/or use of historical calving area attributable to motorized use.</p> <p>Violations in seasonal closures (both on and off-trails and roads) occur in 3 or more consecutive years.</p>	<p>Forest Service staff will increase patrols in the area with the assistance of CPW as available.</p> <p>If chronic illegal use or use of closed trails occurs during the seasonal closure for 3 or more consecutive years, the entire trail system or substantial portions of it may be subject to closure.</p> <p>Closures will remain in effect until a new management strategy can be developed and implemented to deal with off-trail incidents.</p> <p>The number of incidents of illegal use during seasonal closures should steadily decrease as the trail system ages. If a trend toward fewer off trail incidents is not observed, reevaluation and additional actions will be considered including possible trail closures.</p>

Management Category	Desired Conditions	Proactive Recommendations	Monitoring Protocol	Thresholds Triggering Management Action	Management Actions
Hunting	<p>Disturbance to elk is minimal, so that they remain in accessible areas during hunting season.</p> <p>Conflicts between hunters and other users of the trails and roads in the area are minimal.</p>	<p>Seasonal closure of the area will begin October 10. (Rifle season generally opens on the second weekend of October, depending on the year).</p> <p>Signs at all kiosks informing users of hunting season dates and recommending limiting use of the trail system to the middle of the day (between 10am and 3pm) to minimize user conflicts and reduce use during the time when animals are most active.</p>	<p>CPW will monitor health of the elk population.</p> <p>Forest Service will monitor compliance with seasonal closures.</p> <p>All violations of the closure will be documented and reported.</p>	<p>Violations in seasonal closures (both on and off-trails and roads) occur in 3 or more consecutive years.</p> <p>Decreasing presence of elk in accessible areas during rifle hunting seasons.</p> <p>Overall health of elk population decreases.</p>	<p>Violations of seasonal closures will result in increased patrols.</p> <p>Changes in health of elk population attributable to motorized use will result in reconsideration of the closure area to a greater portion or all of the trail system.</p> <p>Increased user conflicts or changes in health of elk population attributable to motorized use will result in consideration of imposing limits on hours of use of the trail system. Specifically the F.S. may allow use only between the hours of 10 am and 3 pm</p>