

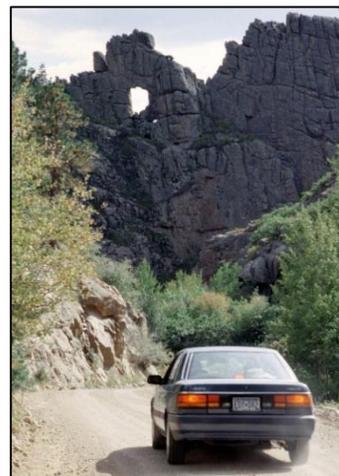
Travel Management



Background Information

Travel and transportation are an integral part of virtually every activity that occurs on BLM-administered lands. Recreation, livestock grazing, wildlife, commodity resources, rights-of-way, access to private inholdings, electronic sites maintenance, and the day-to-day management and monitoring of the Royal Gorge Field Office (RGFO) all rely on effective travel management planning.

The BLM's land use planning policies require all BLM-administered lands to have off-highway vehicle (OHV) area designations. The BLM must designate areas as open, limited, or closed to motorized travel activities. The previous Royal Gorge RMP limited travel to existing routes, with direction to move to a designated route network. Designations were established through the 1986 Northeast RMP and the 1996 Royal Gorge RMP along with subsequent plan amendments. Four travel management plans have been developed and implemented within the RGFO: Box Creek, Arkansas River, Gold Belt, and Fourmile. It is not anticipated that this revision process will modify or overwrite these existing travel management plans.



The BLM doesn't envision a comprehensive travel management plan as part of the RMP revision process that will designate specific routes as open or closed. However, the RMP will provide the basis for future travel management planning and help set guidelines for making road and trail network adjustments throughout the life of the RMP. This may include changes in OHV area designations.

Potential Decisions:

Travel management planning as part of the Eastern Colorado RMP/EIS may:

- Produce a map of the existing road and trail network
- Define short-term management guidance for road and trail access and activities in areas or sub-areas not subject to an existing travel management plan
- Outline additional data needs and a strategy to collect needed information
- Provide a clear planning sequence, including public collaboration, criteria, and constraints for subsequent road and trail selection and identification
- Identify any easements and rights-of-way needed (by the BLM or others) to maintain the existing road and trail network

Planning Issues:

- How can the BLM manage the travel network to reduce conflicts among resources and resource uses and to provide access where needed?

Tell Us What You Think!

If you have input on these topics, please share it with us in a scoping comment.

1. Are there additional travel management topics that should be covered in the EIS?
2. Where and how should the BLM plan for motorized and/or non-motorized vehicle use on public lands?
3. Can you recommend sources of information that should be used in the RMP/EIS?

Please submit your comments and other information via email to ECRMP.comments@blm.gov