Gunnison County
COLORADO

Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners
Phone: (970) 641–0248 • Fax: (970) 641–3061
Email: bocc@gunnisoncounty.org • www.GunnisonCounty.org

July 12, 2011

US first class mail and email:
COComments@fsroadless.org

Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS
P.O. Box 1919
Sacramento, CA 95812

Re: Colorado Roadless Rule

To Whom It May Concern:

The Board of County Commissioners of Gunnison County, Colorado respectfully submits the following comments regarding the proposed EIS for the above project.

Gunnison County has designated the North Fork Valley Coal Resource Special Area and has adopted the Coal Resource Special Area Coal Mining Regulations. In those Regulations, Gunnison County recognizes that coal is a resource valuable to the United States, Colorado and Gunnison County that deserves to be extracted and put to use.

To that end Gunnison County supports aspects of Alternative 2 that support the ability of coal companies to access areas for venting underground mines for miner safety and continued operation. Gunnison County also supports exploring options to recover methane from active and inactive coal mines and urges that access to these sites be considered in the rule.

In addition, we support provisions in the various alternatives that keep currently undeveloped roadless areas free from industrial uses. Gunnison County's primary economy is based on recreational tourism. Allowing new roads in those areas of the county which are currently roadless will harm the continued viability of that economy.

Please help protect our coal mining and tourism economy in your deliberations on the Colorado Roadless Rule.

Sincerely,

Hap Channell	Paula Swenson	Phil Chamberland
Chairperson	Vice-Chairperson	Commissioner