



SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION

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October 15, 2024

Michelle Kerns, Superintendent
Glen Canyon National Recreation Area
U.S. National Park Service
P.O. Box 1507
Page, Arizona 86040

Re: Proposed Rule, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, Motor Vehicles, RIN(1024-AE91)

Dear Superintendent Kerns:

San Juan County opposes the proposed rule change specific to the prohibition of OHV and street-legal ATV use on certain unpaved roads within Glen Canyon NRA in San Juan County. These roads include the Johns Canyon, Muley Point and Dry Mesa Roads.

Our opposition is based on the following.

Johns Canyon Road – This is a Class B County road (B244) regularly maintained by the County for motor vehicle use including conventional, OHV and street-legal ATVs. This road is the only vehicle access into Johns Canyon which is a popular route for recreationists for its landscape views, cultural and historic sites and for its riding experience. Due to these values it is one of the routes used on the annual San Juan ATV Safari. This three day event, consisting of several guide-led routes, is a boon to the County for its value in bringing visitors to the County and advertising the scenic, cultural and historical components of the County.

Muley Point Road – This is also a Class B County road (B241) regularly maintained by the County for use by all classes of vehicles. It is the only vehicle access to spectacular viewpoints from the rim of Muley Point. It is a popular route for visitors and local residents and is a well known point of interest drawing visitors to the County. Many of these visitors and residents travel to these viewpoints on OHVs and street-legal ATVs.

Dry Mesa Road – This is a County Class D road (D0138) that provides vehicle access to a remote part of the National Recreation Area and offers views of the surrounding areas and Lake Powell. Due to its rugged nature, this road is also used by high-clearance conventional vehicles, OHVs and street-legal ATVs.

Closure of these roads to OHV and street-legal ATVs would be inconsistent with the San Juan County Travel Plan which recognizes these roads as open for use by all classes of vehicles.

Loss of use of these roads by OHVs and street-legal ATVs would devalue the annual ATV Safari and generally diminish OHV and street-legal ATV riding opportunities in some of the most spectacular areas of San Juan County.

We would hope that road closures to specific vehicle classes would be a last resort after other management methods such as public education, signage and enforcement have been implemented. We encourage you to consider renewed or enhanced efforts in these methods before resorting to road closures.

Sincerely,

Jamie Harvey
Commission Chairman