

SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION

Jamie Harvey Chairman Silvia Stubbs Vice-Chair Bruce Adams Commissioner Mack McDonald Administrator

December 3, 2024

Michael Engelhart, District Ranger Moab/Monticello District Manti-LaSal National Forest PO Box 386 Moab, Utah 84532

Re: County Road Signage Project

Dear Mr. Engelhart:

This letter is to inform you of a County road signage project that will begin soon and will continue indefinitely.

As you are well aware, visitation to San Juan County has increased and continues to increase. With increased visitation comes increased vehicle usage of County roads and trails. This increased vehicle usage can and has created traffic safety issues with the sheer numbers of vehicles travelling the same roads to popular visitor destinations, often at higher speeds than road or traffic conditions warrant.

In addition, County D roads are generally not signed or maintained and were never intended for travel by two-wheel drive low-clearance vehicles which many visitors drive. This situation can and has led to some visitors becoming lost or stranded with a vehicle mired in mud or sand or high centered on irregular road surfaces. County Search and Rescue services have often been employed in these situations, creating a drain on limited staff and budgets.

The County road signage project aims to mitigate some of the risks that visiting motorists unfamiliar to the area may experience on County roads. We intend to continue to sign County B roads with a road number corresponding to road numbers on the County Travel Plan and maps. Speed limit, directional, informational or warning signs may be appropriate on certain roads and locations. With this signage program we hope to provide better information to motorists to lessen the possibility of vehicle accidents and lost or stranded motorists.

Sincerely,

Jamie Harvey Commission Chairman

cc: Utah Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office