



COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: April 6, 2021

ITEM TITLE, PRESENTER: Beaver Creek Restoration Project, Nick Sandberg, Public Lands Coordinator

RECOMMENDATION: Approve letter of comment

SUMMARY

The Forest Service has proposed a restoration project in Beaver Creek NE of La Sal. The project consists of improving sections of Forest roads with rock material, installation of beaver analog dams in Beaver Creek, hardening of the Beaver Creek road crossing and installation of a fence and locked gate and boulders to block public access to two Forest roads. The two roads to be closed are currently designated for public travel on the current Forest Travel Plan and they provide public access for hunting, camping, hiking, motorized recreational use and other uses. The proposed closure would be inconsistent with San Juan County travel planning. The County would like to explore other options to road closure with the Forest Service. The Forest Service has offered a 30 day comment period on the proposal ending April 10.

The attached letter contains comments on this proposed restoration.

HISTORY/PAST ACTION

Vehicle traffic at the Beaver Creek crossing has caused erosion such that the creek now flows down a section of road causing downcutting of the road surface.

FISCAL IMPACT

Unknown at this time.