

County is working with Forest Service on roads  
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In the Sept. 13 edition of the Alamogordo Daily News, my position was inaccurately reported on R.S. 2477 road/trail declarations and Forest Service plans for road and trail closure.

Otero County clearly desires to work with the Forest Service and any other federal agency in regard to road and trail issues. There must be solutions that can keep our roads and trails open in a manner that protects our forest environment, our local economy, and our way of life, I am willing to work to help achieve those solutions.

My statements at the Otero County Commission work session reflect a concern to protect our citizens' access to the national forests. Of special concern to me is the need to keep our forests open for ranching, logging, hunting and all forms of outdoor recreation. However, I also want to make it clear that I have and will continue to work cooperatively with the Forest Service on matters of mutual concern.

Discussions are ongoing with the Lincoln National Forest about the status of roads and trails in the Sacramento Mountains. In addition, Otero County continues to maintain forest roads under cooperative agreement with the Lincoln National Forest for access to homes and recreation sites, and for school bus safety.

Rest assured that I will make every effort to continue working for the benefit of Otero County and its citizens.

Doug Moore, Chairman

Board of County Commissioners