



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument

190 E Center Street
Kanab, UT 84741

<http://www.ut.blm.gov/monument>



IN REPLY REFER TO:
UT030-8300

August 22, 2005

Kane County Commission
Kane County Courthouse
Kanab, UT 84741

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft proposed Kane County Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) ordinance.

The Bureau of Land Management supports recreational uses of public lands when and where appropriate, and at levels that will not cause undue and unnecessary degradation. OHV use is one of these activities.

Land use planning, which includes public input and comment, enables the BLM to allocate and design management prescriptions on public lands. Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument has a completed land use plan (now 5 years old), and vehicular use is addressed in the plan.

BLM will support a County OHV ordinance that is consistent with land use plans covering public lands. I ask that the County's OHV ordinance be consistent with the existing plan for the Monument. Enactment of the ordinance presents an opportunity for the County and the BLM to speak with one voice on this issue, and to provide for appropriate use and economic benefit while protecting some of the most beautiful and valuable land on Earth.

Thank you.

David B. Hunsaker
Monument Manager