



May 23, 2012
Celebration
of the
Public Access Group

Background: Public Access Group

“Assuring access to public lands is a significant challenge to land managers in the western United States” (Loomis, 1993).

- Public access issues exist around the United States.
- Historic mining trails continued to be used post-mining by the public for recreational use.
- Public access to many of these historic corridors has been or could be jeopardized.
- Public Access Group of Ouray County (PAG) formed in 2008.
- PAG is committed to work in a collaborative fashion to preserve and protect historic public access on Ouray County trails and roads for the future use and enjoyment of all citizens, users, and visitors.



2012 PAG Members

| PUBLIC ACCESS GROUP MEMBER | MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE | ALTERNATE MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE |
|---|------------------------------|--|
| Board of County Commissioners of Ouray County | Lynn Padgett | Mike Fedel |
| Ouray County Historical Society | Tom Hillhouse | Don Paulson |
| Ouray Trail Group | Bob Risch | Lynn Meinert |
| Thunder Mountain Wheelers | Walt Blackburn | Reg Cridler |
| Uncompahgre Valley Trail Riders | Reg Cridler | Bill Bennett |
| United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service | Tammy Randall-Parker | Liz Mauch |
| United States Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management | Barbara Sharrow | Teresa Pfifer |
| Western Slope Four Wheelers | Dave Pickard | Ken Emory |

PAG Funding

- Shortly after PAG formed, the group was awarded a grant from Colorado State Parks and Wildlife.
- The grant is administered by Ouray County.
- The purpose of the grant award is to fund planning activities for PAG such as trail inventory, mapping, process development, and the creation of a documented model for how to approach public access issues that could be used statewide by other groups, governmental entities and organizations.
- Many PAG member entities also made donations to the group, in addition to a substantial amount of in-kind donations.
- Public Lands Partnership and Trails Preservation Alliance also made donations to PAG.

Collaborative Land Management

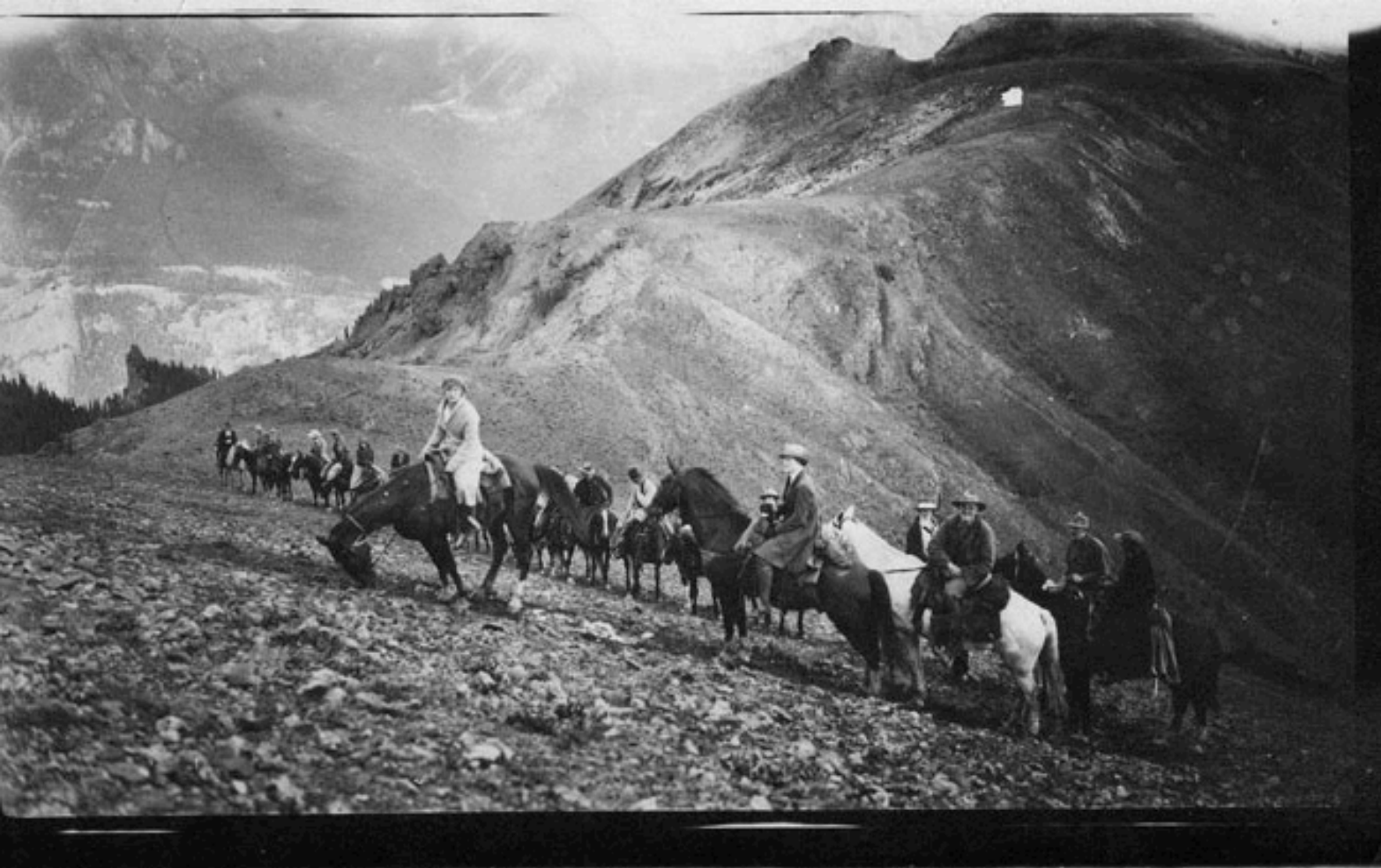
- As our understanding of the interconnectedness of public lands issues improves, there is a greater need for collaboration.
- Collaborative groups can produce more effective and more widely supported outcomes.
- Collaborative work can break down ideological differences, mistrust, and other barriers to decision-making.
- PAG is structured to use consensus building in its decision-making process.
- PAG is on the right track.





PAG PROCESS MODEL

PAG produced a written process model in order to document the group's work and ultimately to assist other groups in public access planning.



TASK 1: FORM A COLLABORATIVE WORKING GROUP TO ADDRESS PUBLIC ACCESS ISSUES.



TASK 2: CREATE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN GROUP MEMBERS.



TASK 3: CREATE A PROCESS FOR PRESERVING PUBLIC ACCESS ON THREATENED ROADS AND TRAILS.



TASK 4: SECURE FUNDING FOR THE WORKING GROUP.



TASK 5: IDENTIFY A PLAN FOR OVERALL COORDINATION OF THE WORKING GROUP.



TASK 6: DRAFT BYLAWS AND CODE OF ETHICS POLICY FOR THE GROUP.



TASK 7: SUGGEST THAT THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT JURISDICTION DRAFT A RESOLUTION THAT ADDRESSES PUBLIC ACCESS ISSUES.



| | | |
|--------------------|-------|------------------|
| Bellevue | | Wm. D. Dwyer |
| Beulah | (Add) | Joseph W. Brown |
| Blackfoot | | C. P. Johnson |
| Canon | | Henry K. Leavitt |
| Castle of Eden | | Harvey L. Fisher |
| Clear Lake | | L. C. Davis |
| Castle of Greece | | A. B. Spring |
| Castle of Hope | | Charles Hanson |
| Castle of Liberty | (Add) | W. H. Spaworth |
| Castle of Peace | | Levi Kendall |
| Castle of Unity | (Add) | Arthur Whitman |
| Castle of Victory | (Add) | A. H. Riggs |
| Castle of the West | | Frank Johnson |
| Castle | (Add) | Frank Johnson |
| Castle | | Thomas Ford |
| Castle | | Wm. Lloyd |
| Castle | (Add) | John Archer |
| Castle | | John C. Smith |
| Castle | | Young Smith |
| Castle | | W. H. Rice |
| Castle | | W. H. Johnson |
| Castle | | W. H. Johnson |
| Castle | (Add) | W. H. Johnson |
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| " " | 38 | 30067 |

TASK 8: COLLECT RELEVANT DATA.

TASK 10: DEVELOP EVALUATION CRITERIA IN ORDER TO PRIORITIZE ROADS AND TRAILS.

Road Name: _____ Trail Name: _____

| Length in Miles | Property Identification (Public, Private, Combination) | Type of Use (Vehicle, Foot, ATV, Bike, Horse, Other) | Shown on Map (Identify Map) | Status of Access (Open, Closed, threatened, etc.) | Property Accessed by Road / Trail |
|--|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | | | | | |
| Quantity of Use (High, Medium, Low) | Public Safety Concerns and/or Impacts | Law Enforcement Concerns and/or Impacts | Wildlife Concerns and/or Impacts | Estimate of Years in Use | |
| | | | | | |

Additional Comments: _____

Submitter: _____ Hours Spent: _____ Date: _____

TASK 11: CREATE 'MOST THREATENED' OR 'PRIORITY ROUTE' TRAIL LIST.

PAG Priority Route List

- ◆ **Silverton Railroad Grade**
- ◆ **County Road 20A / Corkscrew Road and Vicinity**
- ◆ **County Road 31 and Vicinity**
- ◆ **Spirit Gulch / Barstow / Greyhound Road**
- ◆ **County Road 20 / Brown Mountain**



TASK 12: CREATE A PUBLIC PRESENTATION DESIGN



**TASK 13: WITHIN SUBGROUPS, PERFORM
ADDITIONAL RESEARCH AS NECESSARY ON
PRIORITY ROUTES.**



**TASK 14: DEVELOP FUNDING MECHANISMS
NECESSARY FOR ENGAGING THE TOOLS TO
PRESERVE PUBLIC ACCESS.**



TASK 15: NEGOTIATE EASEMENTS OR RIGHTS OF WAY BASED UPON CLAIMS TO SUCH PUBLIC ROADS OR TRAILS, ACQUIRE EASEMENTS OR RIGHTS OF WAY IF FEASIBLE AND APPROPRIATE, OR UTILIZE OTHER METHODS AS IDENTIFIED.

Summary

- PAG has accomplished a great deal in the short time since it was formed.
- The process used in the production of the model and draft map was comprehensive and collaborative.
- PAG now encourages the public to submit comments to the PAG Coordinator regarding the model and draft map.





QUESTIONS?

Ouray County
Public Access Group
(PAG) Route Map



DRAFT May 12, 2012 Revision **DRAFT**

THIS IS NOT A FOREST SERVICE OR BLM MAP

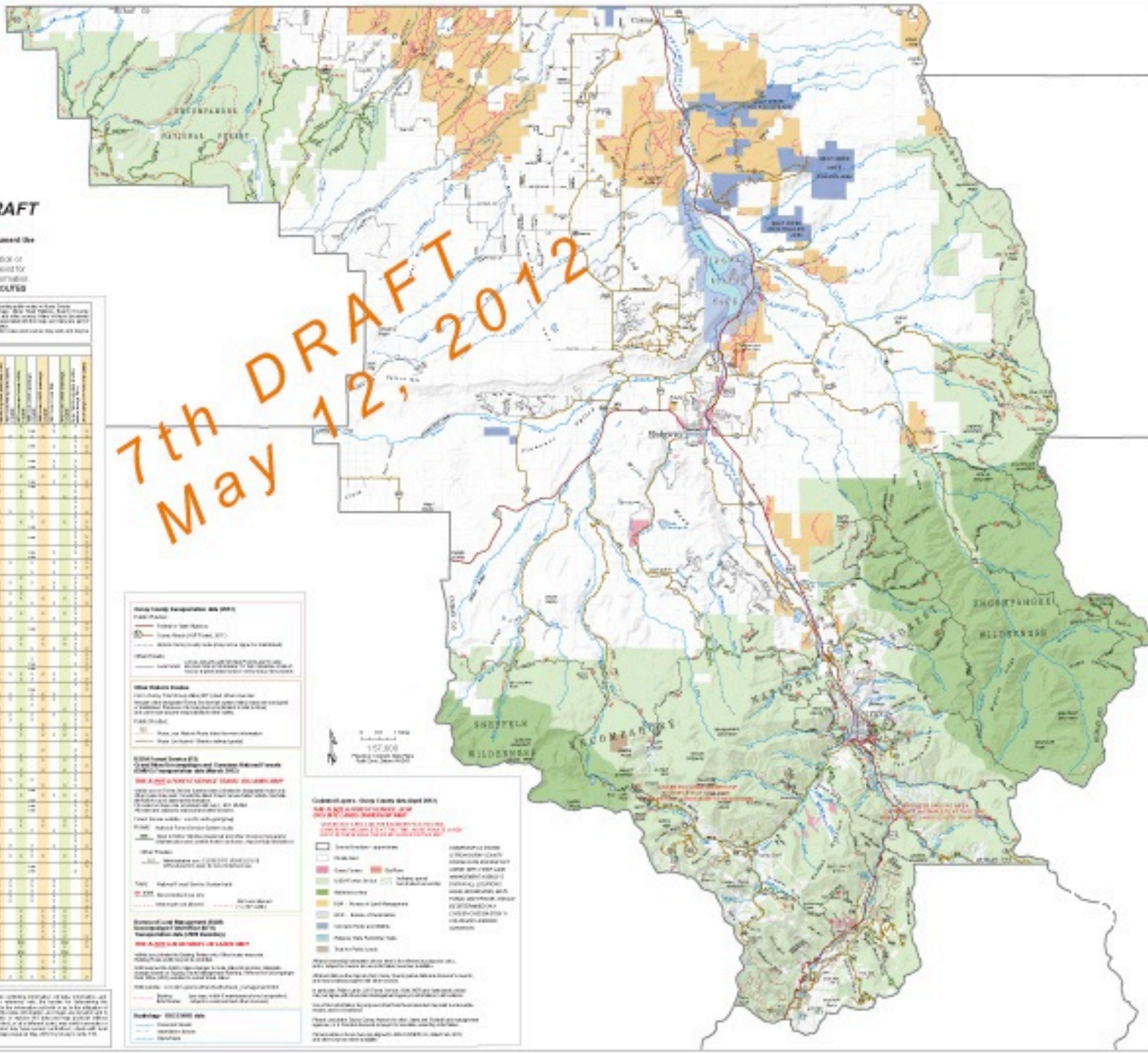
The purpose of this map is to indicate the existence and document the history of public routes in Ouray County.

The map is not intended to be used as a guide for transportation of equipment or livestock. BLM or other lands. Other maps used for transportation. It is the user's responsibility to obtain current information. PLEASE RESPECT PRIVATE PROPERTY ALONG THESE ROUTES

**OURAY COUNTY
HISTORIC ROUTE
INDEX**

| ROUTE ID | ROUTE NAME | ROUTE TYPE | ROUTE STATUS | ROUTE LENGTH (MILES) | ROUTE ELEVATION (FEET) | ROUTE COMMENTS |
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7th DRAFT
May 12, 2012



Other County Information and Data

Public Access:
 - Green: Public Access
 - Blue: Open Space (BLM, etc.)
 - Red: Private Property

Other Public Routes:
 - Yellow: Public Access
 - Orange: Private Property

Other Public Routes (BLM):
 - Green: Public Access
 - Blue: Open Space (BLM, etc.)
 - Red: Private Property

Other Public Routes (BLM):
 - Green: Public Access
 - Blue: Open Space (BLM, etc.)
 - Red: Private Property

Legend

Other Public Routes (BLM):
 - Green: Public Access
 - Blue: Open Space (BLM, etc.)
 - Red: Private Property

Other Public Routes (BLM):
 - Green: Public Access
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Other Public Routes (BLM):
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