

# RED RIVER ROADS STEWARDSHIP COLLABORATIVE

## VISION, PURPOSE & GOALS STATEMENT

*Approved December 11, 2018*

### VISION

Safe and sustainable Red River Roads stewarded by diverse community members working collaboratively through a consensus process and action plan.

### PURPOSE

Represent the interests of the Town of Red River and neighboring communities dependent on the safety and sustainability of the Red River Roads (RRRs) – those roads on Carson National Forest (CNF) lands that lead in and out of the town, namely:

1. *Old Red River Pass*
2. *Goose Lake Road*
3. *4<sup>th</sup> of July Canyon Road*
4. *Greenie Peak Roads*
5. *Cabresto Lake Road*
6. *Pioneer Road*
7. *Flag Mountain Road*

Integrate diverse perspectives to identify, analyze, and prioritize RRRs for repair and maintenance by the community, according to community values and applying community and outside resources.

Steward the RRRs over the long term to achieve safe and passable roads, protect and improve roadside habitats, prevent erosion, and connect the community and visitors to the land to restore and maintain road resiliency and sustainability.

### COLLABORATIVE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

**Goal** – To achieve safe and sustainable Red River Roads with recreational, economic and ecological benefits and lasting community stewardship.

## ***Objectives –***

- (1) Supplement the Forest Service’s road maintenance capacity with collaborative stewardship to establish the RRRs conditions desired by the Collaborative group, as defined in Workshop #1 to be:

### **Road Maintenance**

- *Frequent and routine*
- *Standardized and at scale*
- *Minimum maintenance requirement for the type of use*
- *Multiple uses accommodated*
- *Drainage hydrology deployed (i.e. water bars)*
- *Signage*
- *Funded*

### **Positive Environmental Impact**

- *Watershed protection*
- *Erosion control*
- *Litter control and clean up*
- *Prevention of disallowed off-road use*
- *Minimal wildlife impacts*
- *Water crossings*

### **Law Enforcement**

- *Safety*
- *Proper helmet usage*
- *Education*
- *Forest Protection Officers*
- *OHV ambassadors*
- *Information available at places of business (in Town of Red River)*
- *Focus on visitors bringing in own vehicles and accessing RRRs without an outfitter/guide*

### **Positive Economic Impact**

- *Increase in town revenue from lodgers tax and gross receipts tax*
- *Diversification of funding for RRRs maintenance*
- *Wider recreation “portfolio” for the town of Red River (i.e. different types of users able to use the RRRs)*

- *Increased employment with improved tourism/recreation opportunities and resulting increase in visitor numbers*
- (2) Strengthen relationships amongst stakeholders with differing views about how to maintain the RRRs using a public forum where diverse community members can express their views in open dialogue with the Forest Service Questa District and identify areas of agreement and opportunity.
- (3) Develop a consensus set of actions for each RRR to serve as a plan to ensure community-level stewardship that is supported by the Town of Red River and other interested collaborators, as well as the Forest Service.

**GEOGRAPHIC AREA OF FOCUS** – The Forest Service roads in the CNF Questa District (see map) and the interdependent communities and the watersheds and ecosystems in which they are located, including the Red River.

**WHAT THIS PROCESS IS NOT:**

- A work around the Travel Management Plan.
- A substitute for the Forest Service’s systems/processes to gather public input.

**STAKEHOLDER TYPES**

Identified stakeholders in Red River Roads maintenance include those using the roads or seeking benefits from the roads:

- ⊙ Red River Off-Road Coalition (RROC)
- ⊙ Recreational drivers of ROVs: OHVs, Jeeps, motorcycles, snowmobiles
- ⊙ Rental companies
- ⊙ Accommodations/restaurants/shops
- ⊙ Outfitters and guides
- ⊙ Mountain-bikers
- ⊙ Hikers and snowshoers
- ⊙ Horseback riders
- ⊙ Hunters and fishermen
- ⊙ Campers
- ⊙ Sightseers
- ⊙ Watershed protection entities
- ⊙ Wildlife viewers and wildlife conservationists
- ⊙ Firewood collectors
- ⊙ Harvesters of vigas, latillas, Christmas trees
- ⊙ Forest product companies/other tree and wood product businesses

- Cattle and sheep grazers
- And those using the roads for:
  - Traditional product management
  - Utility maintenance
  - Access to Russell Dam for recreation
  - Access to private lands

*Other interested parties include:*

- All communities with a connection to the Questa District of the CNF
- Forest Service
- Other governmental entities (Town of Red River, Village of Questa, county, state, Pueblo, other Federal)
- Outside funders and providers of in-kind goods and services (including volunteer hours and equipment)
- National Forest Foundation as the initial form of support and facilitation for the group.

