
Trash and squatters on BLM

janet.rowland@mesacounty.us Janet Rowland
To: bobbieddaniel@gmail.com 'Bobbie Daniel'

Friday, April 1, 2022 at 4:05:45 PM Mountain Daylight Time

Thought you might be interested in this. This is from a resident about the camping/trash/abandoned RVs along the I-70 corridor. The attachment shows ownership of the land along the corridor... which you can see makes enforcement problematic.

From: Wolfgang, Gregory G <gwolfgan@blm.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 1, 2022 12:47 PM
To: Janet Rowland <janet.rowland@mesacounty.us>; 'Scott McInnis' <scott.mcinnis@mesacounty.us>
Cc: cody.davis@mesacounty.us; 'Linda Frasier' <linda.frasier@mesacounty.us>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Trash and squatters on BLM

Here is a basic map of the I-70 corridor from Horizon Drive to Palisade that shows land ownership. Let me know if there is any additional info you would like included and we can adjust.

Greg Wolfgang
Field Manager
Grand Junction Field Office
Upper Colorado River District
Department of the Interior Upper Colorado River Region (Region 7)
Bureau of Land Management
970-244-3010 desk
707-798-0839 cell

From: Janet Rowland <janet.rowland@mesacounty.us>
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 5:23 PM
To: Wolfgang, Gregory G <gwolfgan@blm.gov>; 'Scott McInnis' <scott.mcinnis@mesacounty.us>
Cc: cody.davis@mesacounty.us <cody.davis@mesacounty.us>; 'Linda Frasier' <linda.frasier@mesacounty.us>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: Trash and squatters on BLM

Thanks, Greg. It might be nice to start with a map of the land along I-70 corridor showing ownership, and then start to tackle the sections that are most problematic.

While abandoned vehicles is a problem, the problems I see and hear about most are those that are occupied. Scott suggested that perhaps camping could be prohibited in the areas that are most problematic. Certainly something to think about.

Perhaps we could schedule a meeting to look at ownership and discuss options. I've copied Linda Frasier so she can help us schedule something.

Thank you,

Janet

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Cc: cody.davis@mesacounty.us
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Trash and squatters on BLM

Commissioners McInnis, Rowland and Davis,

I would be happy to meet to discuss the issues that Nate brought up. The BLM law enforcement rangers and the Mesa County deputies have developed a plan to streamline the towing and disposal of abandoned vehicles. We hope to be able to finalize this arrangement soon. I look forward to hearing about any other ideas you might have and other ways we can share resources to help resolve these of issues.

Sincerely,

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I have an idea

On Wed, Mar 30, 2022 at 10:01 AM Janet Rowland <janet.rowland@mesacounty.us> wrote:

I'm resending this to include Scott. It appears that was a typo in his email address and it bounced back.

From: Janet Rowland <janet.rowland@mesacounty.us>
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 9:59 AM
To: 'Nate Porter' <porterhomes@live.com>; 'Wolfgang, Gregory G' <gwolfgan@blm.gov>
Cc: cody.davis@mesacounty.us; Scott.Mciniss@mesacounty.us
Subject: RE: Trash and squatters on BLM

Nate,

I share your concern. We also drive past that motor home several times a week, and every time we do my husband asks the same question. And every time I make a mental note to follow up with it, but my mental notes tend to be forgotten.

Greg, if there is something the County can do assist the BLM is resolving this issue you would certainly have my support.

Thanks,

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 Email Signature

From: Nate Porter <porterhomes@live.com>
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Good morning Greg,

Over the past 4 months I have driven East and West on I-70 to and from Palisade approximately 5 days a week. Over that time period I have witnessed several motorhomes parked on what appears to be BLM. Out of concern and frustration I called one of our County Commissioners, Cody Davis. My concerns arose from the squatting for more than the legal time allotted per the BLM statutes for "camping" and frustration arising from the trash accumulating near the site. Shortly after Mr. Davis made a phone call/email to the BLM, the motorhome was moved approximately 200 yards to the West, parking just east of 3002 I-70 Frontage Rd. After I noticed the squatters had moved, I also noticed a very large pile of trash left behind from their original encampment. I do not mean a few pieces of trash but rather a large pile with bags and even a full trash can left behind.

What will the BLM do to remediate this issue? I personally would be happy to go by today and load up the trash in my truck and place it in front of the motorhome to whom the trash belongs, but I can guess where that could end up. Aren't there some laws written as to the nature of illegal dumping of refuse on public lands? If these lands are not in your jurisdiction should I be in contact with the Mesa County Sheriff? As a taxpaying concerned citizen who loves Grand Junction and utilizes public lands often I am happy to help where I can but certainly something needs to be done with these people or Grand Junction will not be seen in good light. People traveling from the East are driving by that dumping site daily.

I appreciate any help taking care of this potential health issue as well as this visual black eye, not to mention the illegal nature of trashing up our public lands.

Sincerely,

Nate Porter

(970) 210-6324

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

--

Scott McInnis

Mesa County Board of Commissioners

(970) 244-1604

scott.mcinnis@mesacounty.us



Attachments:

image001.png 16k

land_ownership_palisade_to_horizon_map_20220401.pdf 1.3M

bobbieddaniel@gmail.com Bobbie Daniel
To: janet.rowland@mesacounty.us Janet Rowland

Saturday, April 2, 2022 at 8:42:34 AM Mountain Daylight Time

This is great. I've been following this loosely; the map is helpful with the private property. From what I could gather from the Sheriff, it seems like the squatters are on private property and the property owners are not aware they have squatters which may make it difficult to enforce.

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