

LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN
PIKE AND SAN ISABEL NATIONAL FORESTS
and
COMANCHE AND CIMARRON NATIONAL GRASSLANDS

AMENDMENT NUMBER 21

June, 1990

<u>Page Code</u>	<u>Superseded</u>	<u>New</u>
Chapter II, Page II-42		1
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Reason For This Amendment:

This amendment is necessary because of designation of the Scenic Highway of Legends as a Scenic Byway on February 8, 1990, by Forest Service Chief F. Dale Robertson. It is necessary to add Appendix J to the Land and Resource Management Plan (the Forest Plan) to include the formal Scenic Byway designation sheet signed by the Chief.

Amendment Number 21:

This amendment updates the Forest Plan to identify the Scenic Highway of Legends as a Scenic Byway on the San Carlos Ranger District, San Isabel National Forest.

Include the following paragraph under the heading, Special Recreation Areas, Chapter II, Page II-42:

"Scenic Highway of Legends Scenic Byway. The Scenic Highway of Legends is an 82 mile route in south central Colorado, just north of the New Mexico border and includes 68 miles of Colorado Highway 12 from Interstate 25 in Trinidad to the junction with U.S. Highway 160 and 14 miles of U.S. Highway 160 through Walsenburg and returning to I-25. Seven miles of the route are within the San Carlos Ranger District, San Isabel National Forest; seventy-five miles of the route are under the jurisdiction of the Colorado Division of Highways. This semi-circular route around Spanish Peaks travels through two valleys of extraordinary scenic beauty and historic interest. The Purgatory River Valley west from Trinidad includes examples of igneous volcanic dykes, the well known "stonewalls" which radiate outward from the Spanish Peaks. The area includes historic coal mining towns of Cokedale, Tercio, Torres, and Segundo. Following the climb to the summit of Cucharas Pass, the descent into Cuchara Valley reaches the picturesque towns

of La Veta and Cuchara and thence to U.S. Highway 160 and I-25 at Walsenburg completing the 82 mile route."

Incorporate into the Forest Plan the following goal for the Scenic Byway Program after the heading, GOALS, Chapter III, Page III-3:

Manage a Scenic Byways Program to: contribute to the Nations's overall Scenic Byways effort; meet the demand of driving for pleasure as a significant recreation use; showcase outstanding National Forest and National Grassland scenery; and, increase awareness, understanding and use of National Forests for outdoor recreation for all users and visitors.

Add new Forest Direction for Scenic Byway management to the Forest Plan. Insert in Chapter III, Page III-27, new management requirements which read as follows:

<u>Management Activity</u>	<u>General Direction</u>	<u>Standards & Guidelines</u>
Scenic Byway Management	<p>01 Upon Scenic Highway designation, prepare a Scenic Byway management plan and viewshed plan for the Byway corridor as seen from the Byway. Consider the following planning criteria for Corridor Plans:</p> <p>a. Determine public desires for the Scenic Byway.</p> <p>b. Include a vegetation management plan (see RF's 2370/7770 Ltr., dated 02/12/90).</p> <p>c. Determine permanent and moving vista locations.</p> <p>d. Determine need for recreation facilities to serve the Scenic Byway users.</p> <p>e. Prepare an interpretive plan reflecting interpretation of natural features, history and other pertinent aspects of the Scenic Byway.</p>	<p>a. Follow nomination procedures for Scenic Byway designation in the Regional Forester's 2370/7700 Letter of February 12, 1990.</p> <p>b. Maintain Scenic Byway corridors generally within 1/2 mile either side of the Byway centerline, but also including related natural features and historical and recreation sites within convenient driving distance.</p>

f. Include partnership agreements with other Federal agencies, local governments, private organizations and individuals in an implementation plan (see RF's 2370/7700 Ltr., dated 02/12/90).

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02 Upon Scenic Highway designation, prepare a Scenic Byway Viewshed Management Plan for the Scenic Byway corridor. Consider the following planning criteria for Scenic Byway Viewshed Management Plans:

a. Prepare a map of the viewshed boundaries.

b. Include Visual Quality Objectives for the Byway corridor.

c. Prepare Viewshed Monitoring Plan.

a. Prepare Viewshed analysis to determine where enhancement is appropriate.

b. Prepare Enhancement Action Plan for implementation.

Insert the attached new Appendix J following Appendix I in the Forest Plan. Appendix J includes the formal designation sheet signed by Chief F. Dale Robertson.

The Forest Plan map will be modified when it is next printed to show the Scenic Highway of Legends Scenic Byway with a shaded corridor along the route described above. The Forest Plan Map legend will be modified to include a Scenic Byway symbol (the shaded corridor) with the designation of "Scenic Byway".

I have determined that there is no significant effect on the human environment and categorically excluding this amendment from documentation in an environmental assessment or impact statement is appropriate (FSM 1952.2).

/s/ Jack Weissling
JACK WEISSLING
Forest Supervisor

6/11/90
Date

APPENDIX J