

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF GUNNISON COUNTY, COLORADO**

RESOLUTION NO. 01- 35

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT NO RECREATIONAL FEES BE IMPOSED
ON FEDERAL LANDS IN GUNNISON COUNTY UNDER THE
RECREATIONAL FEE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, in 1996 Congress authorized the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program which allows the United States Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to charge daily and yearly fees to visitors for recreation on publicly owned land under their management; and

WHEREAS, a Fee Demo program has been implemented in the Canyon Creek area of the Uncompahgre National Forest, including Yankee Boy Basin, Imogene Pass, and Mount Sneffels; and

WHEREAS, it is reasonable to expect that the Fee Demo program could be extended to USFS and BLM public lands in Gunnison County; and

WHEREAS, recreational fees constitute double taxation which bears no relationship to the actual cost of recreation such as hiking, picnicking, observing wildlife or scenic driving on roads within public lands; and

WHEREAS, while the original intent of the Fee Demo program was to generate revenue to address maintenance backlogs and enhance visitor services, it has instead limited public access and garnered strong public criticism; and

WHEREAS, while the controversy over the Fee Demo program continues, the core issue of providing adequate funding for public land maintenance remains unresolved; and

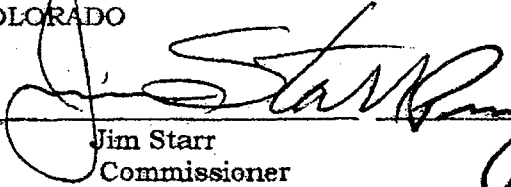
WHEREAS, since the purchase of a Fee Demo pass is counted by the USFS and BLM as support of the program, but no means of expressing opposition is provided except to avoid the fee area, we are concerned that some citizens may be deterred from visiting and enjoying the public lands in Gunnison County if this program is implemented.

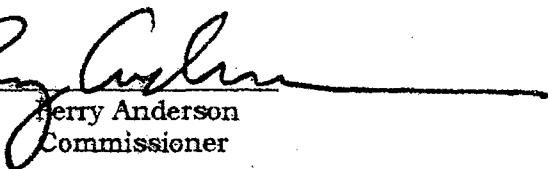
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gunnison County Board of Commissioners hereby requests that no recreational fees be imposed on Federal lands under the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program, or similar programs, within the boundaries of the Gunnison Watershed.


INTRODUCED by Commissioner Starr, seconded by Commissioner Anderson and adopted this 9th day of October, 2001.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF GUNNISON COUNTY, COLORADO


Fred R. Field
Chairperson


Jim Starr
Commissioner


Jerry Anderson
Commissioner


Kelly Balch
Deputy County Clerk

