

Information in Support of SB13-067

By Senator Tochtrop and Representative Vigil

- SB13-067 reauthorizes HB08-1069 allowing Colorado Peace Officers to enforce Off-highway Vehicle and Motor Vehicle restrictions on travel to designated roads and trails on National Forest and Bureau of Land Management lands. (BLM)
- The original Bill was passed with the support of Parks and Wildlife, motorized recreational groups, hunters and anglers and the conservation community.
- The Bill provides for a penalty assessment fine for going off designated roads and trails. Additionally, if such activity occurs while an individual is hunting or fishing there is also discretion for the officer to issue a penalty assessment resulting in the loss of points regarding a hunting or fishing license. It sets a higher fine for incursion into Wilderness Areas.
- The Forest Service and BLM have principle responsibility and remain the lead in law enforcement. SB13-067 allows the state to simply provide support and an increased law enforcement presence.
- Over the past five years the law has substantially strengthened the field presence of law enforcement without unduly burdening state officers by taking them away from other duties. Being a violation in the field it is enforced coincident with the officer's regular duties.
- Any serious offenses witnessed by a Colorado Peace Officer may be referred to the federal government if any additional penalties are warranted.
- This Bill requires no General Funds and is funded through the existing OHV Registration Program.
- The Bill removes the five year sunset provision.

There is one technical amendment to be offered