

August 23, 2022

Daniel Lay, Hydrologist
Moab/Monticello Ranger District
US Forest Service Manti-La Sal National Forest
PO Box 386
Moab, UT 84532

Re: MLSNF SZ Hydrologic Function Rehabilitation and Restoration

Dear Mr. Lay,

On behalf of the Moab City Council, I would like to express our support for the 10-year Hydrologic Function Rehabilitation and Restoration project to be conducted in the Manti La Sal National Forest South Zone (MLSNF SZ). We appreciate the variety of approaches being considered to address degradation of watershed health related to springs, streams, wetlands and uplands on the Moab-Monticello Ranger District, and we look forward to learning how these treatments improve water quality and quantity, watershed function, and biological integrity over time.

To help the Council understand the process and outcomes we have a few comments for consideration as follows:

- Moab City's interest to both enhance and preserve the health of our watershed - and better understand what prevention and treatments are helpful, the City would like updates on how the project is progressing and what assistance the City can provide. For example, it would be beneficial to understand what specific practices have contributed gully cuts and how these cuts impair the watershed. This information can help all of us who love recreating in the upper end of watershed minimize our impacts and better understand how upstream impacts affect what happens downstream into City limits.
- Provide information as to how the City of Moab can be of support to the USFS as this work advances, such as informing the public on volunteer days associated with the project, etc.
- Provide the City with updates on this project and related monitoring that may be useful for local policymakers consideration. Although Moab City does not have oversight of USFS, we are always interested in learning if there are things that can be done on our end to promote watershed health through continued collaboration with watershed partners.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on MLSNF SZ Hydrologic Function Rehabilitation and Restoration project. We appreciate the USFS bringing this important work to our attention.

Sincerely,

Joette Langianese
Mayor