**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**
**REGION IX**
**75 Hawthorne Street**
**San Francisco, CA 94105**

**DEC 12 2011**

Earl Stewart
US Forest Service
1824 South Thompson Street
Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Subject: Final Environmental Impact Statement for Travel Management on Coconino National Forest, Coconino, Gila, and Yavapai Counties, Arizona (CEQ# 20110375).

Dear Mr. Stewart:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for Travel Management on Coconino National Forest (Project) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and our NEPA review authority under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

EPA reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Project and provided comments to the Forest Service on May 17, 2010. We rated the document EC-2, Environmental Concerns – Insufficient Information due to our concerns that adverse impacts to the environment could result from the lack of funds for maintenance, monitoring, and enforcement road closures.

We commend the Forest Service for its decision to reconsider the designation of dispersed camping corridors in meadows, riparian areas, and other sensitive species habitat. We further acknowledge that Preferred Alternative 3 proposes to close 4,317 miles of road to motorized use, in the Coconino Forest; however, we continue to have concerns that, without adequate monitoring and enforcement, these proposed road closures will be ineffective due to illegal/unauthorized use.

EPA considers identification of an Equipment Emissions Mitigation Plan to be a vital part of project planning. We recommend that the ROD include such a plan.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this FEIS. If you have any questions, please contact me at (415) 972-3521, or contact James Munson, the lead reviewer for this project. James can be reached at (415) 972-3800 or munson.james@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Martyn Goforth

Kathleen Martyn Goforth, Manager
Environmental Review Office
Communities and Ecosystems Division