

Chair Raúl M. Grijalva
Statement FTR
Full Committee Markup
July 14, 2021

- While I support the purposes of this act, I want to ensure that the record reflects some of my concerns with this legislation – concerns I trust we will resolve before bringing this bill to the floor.
- H.R. 3113 authorizes funding for several federal land management agencies to digitize and make publicly available relevant information about roads, trails, routes, and other accesses on our federal lands. This is a goal I believe we can all support.
- I appreciate the willingness of our colleagues across the aisle to work with us, with the agencies, and with relevant stakeholders to ensure that this language achieves its intended purposes.
- In particular, I'd highlight the importance of including a prohibition on publicizing information on illegal or unauthorized roads and trails.
- As it stands, I believe we have made significant improvements on the introduced text.; however, I am concerned about the lack of definition for Roads and Trails, a key term in the legislation.
- It is essential that we define this term utilizing appropriate references to relevant statutes and regulations. The agencies included in the bill have comprehensive definitions for roads, trails, routes, and other accesses borne out of public rule making processes and an extensive judicial record.
- While it would have been ideal to refer to relevant statutes and regulations in the bill we are marking up today, I understand that we need to more time to work with the appropriate agencies to ensure we get the details right.
- I just want the record to reflect that this was not an oversight and that the lack of definition does not reflect the intentions of this Committee.
- I fully intend to work with my colleagues to ensure this bill clearly and comprehensively reflects the current state of relevant statutes and regulations when it comes to roads, trails, routes, and other accesses on our federal lands.