

**File Code:** 2730  
**Date:** April 7, 2026

Laurie Beckel  
Gilpin/Clear Creek Home and Landowners Association (GCCHLA)  
P.O. Box 237  
Idaho Springs, CO 80452

Dear Ms. Beckel:

When the private road easement (CLC575401) for the Gilpin/Clear Creek Home and Landowners Association (GCCHLA) was created the intent was that it would cover both secondary/spur roads and driveways for members of the association. Given the complex and mixed ownership of the York Gulch area, the Mineral Survey Summary Exhibit B was developed to list the parcels that are covered by the easement. The association has many members and land sales of the patented mining claims are frequent. To avoid issuing new easements each time a landowner changes, a line summary of mining claims was used. The purpose of the easement is to provide legal use of those roads/driveways crossing National Forest System (NFS) land to access private property to members of the association. A single authorization to the association saves considerable time and money because it is far more efficient and effective for the Forest Service administratively. For roads and driveways that are covered by the easement we encourage the property owners to join the Association, as only members of the Association have legal access. Any disputes between the landowners regarding the crossing of driveways on private lands must be settled between the parties.

There was a recent inquiry about the Conclave Lode Mining Claim, US Mineral Survey No. 16483 and the Hercules Lode Mining Claim, US Mineral Survey No. 1492. Both are listed in the Exhibit B Mineral Survey Summary, and the existing driveway is covered by the GCCHLA easement as long as the property owner is a member of the association.

We also want to take this opportunity to discuss the easements as we approach the 30-year mark as outlined in Item D of the easement. This allows us to review the terms, conditions, and stipulations; make any necessary edits, such as the Exhibit B summary list; ensure the current operation and maintenance plan is appropriate; and produce an updated easement. Please let us know if you would like to take this opportunity to make some of these outlined updates.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please continue to work with and contact Nicole Malandri at [nicole.malandri@usda.gov](mailto:nicole.malandri@usda.gov) or 303-567-3011.

Sincerely,

JUSTIN FORGENSI  
District Ranger

