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### Runaway Truck Ramp / Buffalo, Colorado

Today we had the first truck utilize the new runaway truck ramp west of Buffalo, Colorado. The driver, Mike Stewart said his brakes got hot and he was about to lose his air, so he decided to take the ramp. He said he was traveling about 40 mph when he entered the ramp. He was hauling an 80,000 lb tanker load of sulfuric acid. He traveled approximately 330' into the ramp and went through 5 sets of nets. As you can see from the photos, damage to the truck was limited to the front bumper and cab. The driver actually backed the truck up after getting stopped. As a matter of fact, the driver was going to drive the truck out of the ramp and down the mountain, no wrecker service needed. The driver stated that he was very thankful that the ramp was there - "Thank God it was here; go ahead and build more of them". He said he would hate to think what would have happened if he took the old ramp especially with the type of load he was hauling (sulfuric acid). With the old ramp, there is potential for the truck to jackknife, and turn over and potentially cause a spill. The driver stated that when he hit the first net, there was only a slight jolt (just enough to slide his dog out of the passenger seat). After that, it was a very gradual and smooth slow down. He did state that the signs prior to the ramp were a little confusing, but that they did point him towards the ramp. The driver said the trucking company is **Groendyke Transport, Inc.**, 620 Railroad Ave., P.O. Box 606, Riverton, WY 82501; Phone: 307-857-5881.



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