

Bianchi, Adam D -FS

From: Anni Davis <annivail7@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 8, 2020 5:55 PM
To: FS-r02admin-review; admin eagle@eaglecounty.us
Subject: Berlaimont Estates

Attention: Objection Reviewing Officer

The following is an additional letter to be added to earlier letters I have sent. With the extraordinary wildfires this season, I want to add additional concerns.

The announcement that the USFS has approved the building of an access road to this in-holding property is **beyond all reasonable comprehension**. During earlier Public Input the overwhelming majority of local residents, over 90%, have protested strongly against this proposed development which will impact every single one of us living here.

From an antiquated law, ANILCA, that the developers found pertaining to an in-holding in Alaska, a vastly unpopulated area compared to our valley, they have forced this ruling on your decision to provide this unreasonable request. There are many in-holdings in Colorado that show by example that the USFS does not have a historical responsibility to build a road to an in-holding it only states: **allow** access. Yet, our USFS has caved to threats of a lawsuit based on this law as it is the only possible reason the 30 foot wide paved road has been granted.

You have heard and read multiple input on the irreparable harm to our vastly diminishing wildlife herds because of development and that this particular property is acknowledged as one of the PRIME winter habitat ranges left to these herds. What happens to **YOUR** ruling in this area of forced seasonal closures? It is obvious what a 30 foot wide road on these slopes will do to the visible impact on our community and it also compromises one of our most highly used recreational trails. As the stewards of our public lands and forests we now have huge problems with the credibility of the decision that has been made and of those making that decision. You do have the option of a "No Action" alternative.

I would like to add further thoughts in regards to the Urban Wildlands Interface and its influence on the extraordinary wildfires in 2020 and the obvious trend towards warmer and drier climate conditions which directly correlate to larger and more rapid fire spread. We had 2.5 million HA of forest fires this year in the US, 10,000 structures were lost. The majority of these fires were ignited by human related issues. There were 1000 deaths this year attributed to smoke inhalation. Colorado was rated as exceptional drought. We lost close to 700,000 acres from over 1000 fires. Before 2008 there were This property is a south facing slope, very susceptible to drought and a difficult distance from help. The bigger issue is that there is no appreciable availability of water. Water is either going to need to be pumped thru several pumping stations or delivered by truck to this property. The availability of water on the Western Slope is already being challenged. The impact of this development on our community will be substantial in many ways.

Studies have shown that prefire mitigation efforts have failed to prevent any substantial structural loss. Studies show that there is very little knowledge of the consequences of building and developing into this wildland interface. Furthermore, there is an expectation that developers expect public resources to be fully responsible for protecting them from any losses or damages. This puts additional

strains on our community and our resources, the safety and health of all of us and the financial costs that we will inevitably have to share. All this is for the benefit of the developer, not a native to our lifestyle, and a few 19 homeowners vs a community that highly values wildlife, view corridors and our faith that the stewards of our public lands care as much as we do and will hold our wildlife sacred

Please we ask that you look hard at the irrational, illogical decision that has been made for the benefit of a few and the detriment to the residents and wildlife of this beautiful valley. The best decision would be to look for a land exchange and to further clean up the wording and it's intention of the ANILCA ruling.

Respectfully,
Anni Davis

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