



Crystal Valley Environmental Protection Association

The environmental watchdog of the Crystal Valley since 1972

PO Box 921
Carbondale, Colorado, 81623
cvepa.org

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To All Concerned,

The Crystal Valley Environmental Protection Association (CVEPA) supports the USFS Draft Environmental Assessment of the Redstone to McClure Pass Trail.

We do have concerns regarding development of the trail:

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- Usage of the trails in the Bear Creek Basin will increase as a result of this action. Vigilant education, patrol and enforcement to deter social trail development and develop an attitude of stewardship is essential. Dog regulation is of great concern to us as mitigation of wildlife disturbance is a priority. We support science-based seasonal regulations to close the area for wildlife protection.
- We support a serpentine design to mitigate bicycle speed and to minimize disturbance of vegetation. We support the 3' wide natural surface.
- CVEPA adamantly recommends prohibition of commercial use on the trail. This should not preclude bicycle rentals in Redstone or the surrounding area but should disallow outfitters from bringing riders to the top (or bottom) of McClure Pass to ride the trail. Additional, profit motivated uses will bring more pressure to the trails system and the Bear Creek Basin.
- CVEPA also encourages both CDOT and Pitkin County to develop bicycle lanes within the Right of Way of State Highway 133 to accommodate road cyclists and to supply a seasonal option for all cyclists.
- The electrical transformer installment at Placita should be the location of the proposed Placita parking area as it is already compromised by CDOT landfill and electrical infrastructure.

John Armstrong
President, CVEPA Board of Directors