

May 4, 2023



The Colorado Trail  
Foundation

To Whom it May Concern:

The Colorado Trail Foundation (CTF) appreciates this opportunity to comment on the White River National Forest Frisco Backyard Fuels and Recreation Project, Project #63395. The CTF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, with a mission to help build and maintain The Colorado Trail (CT) between Denver and Durango.

The CTF has reviewed the Frisco Backyard Fuels and Recreation Project Scoping Notice and Map and have the following comments regarding the proposed project:

1. The CT, as well as the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDNST), follows existing system trails through the southern portion of the analysis area, including Trail 79 Gold Hill, Trail 45 Peaks Trail, and Trail 38 Miners Creek. Identifying the CT and CDNST would provide additional clarity to the existing system trails, as well as ensure that CDNST scenic integrity and viewshed considerations would be included in the fuels reduction analysis. Specifically, the CTF prefers methods and standards that leave the area adjacent to the trail looking as natural as possible.
2. The CTF requests that the CT/CDNST within the project area be analyzed for any unsustainable sections and realignment of any identified sections be considered. This would be consistent with the analysis of other trails within the project area and result in a more sustainable interconnected trail system. The CTF would like to participate in this analysis of the CT/CDNST with Forest Service staff and provide input on any potential realignments prior to finalizing.

Please contact the CTF if you have any questions regarding these comments. Again, we appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project.

Sincerely,

Tisha McCombs  
Executive Director

