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First name: Alan

Last name: Miller

Organization:

Title:

Comments: FW: Middle Fork Cimmaron trail near Silver Jack Reservoir

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From: Alan Miller <alanm@frii.com>

Sent: Thursday, August 10, 2017 9:42 PM

To: seanbrown@fs.fed.us

Cc: Bill Rolfe; Trish; elizabethjones@fs.red.us

Subject: Fwd: Middle Fork Cimmaron trail near Silver Jack Reservoir

Mr Brown

I would like to continue this conversation

1. To complete your quote from the Wilderness Act please remember the following which you omitted: "subject to such reasonable regulations as are deemed necessary by the Secretary of Agriculture"
2. This trail, were it was not obliterated by the cows, has Elephant Head growing along its border. I have only been a resident of Colorado and a regular visitor to Colorado's Wilderness areas in all seasons of the year since 1974 but in all that time I have never known that plant to grow anywhere but in a wet and marshy area. I certainly think it would be "reasonable" to not allow grazing in a naturally wet area like this one.
3. I spent a lot of time in the saddle during fall round ups on BLM land when in my 20's near Ignacio. My father-in-law was born and raised on a ranch near Trapper's Lake in the Flat Tops Wilderness. My wife and I and later our children spent a long week every summer for over 30 years on a ranch horseback riding, hiking and fishing near Trapper's Lake. The ranchers I know are responsible people.
4. I would like to see a copy of the lease you are referring to in this particular instance.
5. We were hiking on the Stealey Mountain Trail - only a few miles away from the trashed trail - which seemed like a reasonable area for grazing, but did not see any cows.
6. In the past when I leased property I had to provide a damage deposit and was responsible for damage in excess of that amount if it occurred. Do the people that lease this land provide a damage deposit or a bond? and if so how much? Does it cover the cost of destruction and reclamation of the trail?
7. You may want to remove the sign at the beginning of the trail that states "Keep Wilderness Wild," as the current conditions with cattle grazing are not keeping wilderness wild.

I have more photos if needed

Please remember that this land belongs to the citizens of the United States of America and not to a special interest group. It is our taxes that fund your agency and pay your salary.

If you think Bill and I are being unreasonable there are many comments about the cows on the trail register

I hope that you and your agency re-evaluate future grazing in this specific location and look forward to your response.

Regards

Alan Miller