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Comments: I am both an avid recreationalist and a conservationist having lived in Telluride for 34 years. I hold the grass roots process by which this community decided to preserve the Sheep Mountain Special Management Area (now part of the CORE Act) in the highest regard as an example of how people with different interests can work together to draft a plan.

I support MOST of the proposed trail plan with the rehab of existing trails and the creation of new trails where no other "connectors" exists, but the Sheep Mountain Traverse Trail is problematic. Under no circumstance should this new trail cut through what is being considered as part of the CORE Act. The community has been working for over 20 years to preserve this basin. Alternative B suggests the new trail "skirt" the boundary of the proposed protected area. This makes no sense to create a new trail that takes the same course as an existing trail and is completely unnecessary. The historic Galloping Goose trail is more than sufficient to handle multi-use traffic. Visitors to the area love the historic nature of this old railroad grade trail. To start creating redundancy (parallel trails) in our trail system sets a bad precedent.

The presence of lynx in the area is a very real concern. They really do live there and to encounter one is magical (see attached)! Let's leave this pristine habitat in tact and do not turn it into a mountain bike park.

Thank you to Telluride Mountain Club for all the other trails in this proposal.

Thank you to Sheep Mountain Alliance and Senator Bennett's office for working toward the preservation of the Sheep Mountain Special Management Area for over 20 years.

Alternative 3 is the best compromise.