

March 19, 2020

United States Forest Service Attn: Lorie Almazan, MS, Acting Public Affairs Specialist 900 Grand Avenue Glenwood Springs, CO 81601

[Via Email]

Re: Referral - Redstone to McClure Pass Project

Ms. Almazan,

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the planning process of the Redstone to McClure Pass Project. Eagle County is in support of trails that allow access to the backcountry and create community connections in an environmentally responsible manner.

Specifically, the Eagle County Comprehensive Plan states in Section 3.5.6 Policies and Recommended Implementation Strategies for Infrastructure & Services, "The management and distribution of recreation areas and facilities should be implemented in an environmentally conscientious manner." There is a recommended strategy in this same section to, "Provide adequate opportunities and facilities for hiking, walking, strolling, and running," and "Monitoring impacts to backcountry areas and applying appropriate management strategies."

Eagle County is in support of the White River National Forest completing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the project and supports the implementation of the recommendations stemming from the analysis included in the EA.

Please contact me at (970) 328-8750, or at <u>morgan.beryl@eaglecounty.us</u> if you have questions or would like to request a meeting to discuss these comments.

Sincerely,

Morgan Beryl [via email] Community Development Director

Cc: File