

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/8/2017 1:02:20 AM

First name: Ken

Last name: Holyfield

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I ride both mountain bikes and dirt bikes on the trail systems in the Montrose / Ridgway / Grand Mesa areas. I'm in favor of expanding trails for recreation in these areas. I'm not in favor of closing or limiting access to advanced trails that are typically used by dirt bikes.

Establishing trails that are designated for one type of recreation only (non-motorized vs motorized) is fine as long as existing trails don't have to be closed to achieve this goal. I think it is important for non-motorized and motorized riders to work together to maintain and grow our local trail systems as many of us enjoy both types of riding. After reading many of the comments here, it seems that there is a bit of dislike between different groups and their view of how the trails should be managed. Many dirt bike riders, including myself, like advanced trails and don't want these trails to be closed or re-routed. Dirt bike riders also entry level and intermediate trails when teaching kids or other beginners how to ride so closing these off to motorized does not make sense either. Mountain bike riders seem to value a quiet single track ride with a desire to have a nice "loop" type of trail system. I understand both perspectives and I also understand that forest land can and should be used by all types of recreation enthusiasts. I would love to see more mountain bike trails built on the Grand Mesa.

All types of riders (mtn bike, motorized, horseback, ATV, etc.) can make choices on where to ride. I can decide to ride the RAT trails knowing full well that I won't encounter any motorized riders. I can also ride Aspen Trail on my dirt bike knowing that I may encounter a mountain bike or horseback rider. Either way I'm not offended that someone else has a different interest than I do. When I see a horseback rider, I quickly kill the engine and let the rider safely ride by. Likewise, when I see a mountain biker, I throttle down to minimize the noise while passing. Respect goes a long way. My point is, let's keep our trails open and let's enjoy the ride (what ever your ride preference may be).