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First name: Kelly

Last name: Ryan

Organization: San Juan Hut Systems

Title: GM

Comments: Hello,

Thank you for putting together the webinars to help include the public and keep interested people informed.

Although I was only able to participate in the first webinar, I found that the hosts did an excellent job and it was a very effective way to include members of the public. I particularly appreciated that there were two times of day to participate and learn more.

1. My main suggestions/concern is that the area below the Sneffels Wilderness and above the private has no designation. This area includes many of the most frequently photographed scenes in the state, it is incredibly scenic and important to protect. This area lies mainly between 8,000 and 10,000 feet and provides key habitat for elk and other wildlife. It is also traversed by the Dallas Trail along which our hiking and ski hut system runs. I think it would be beneficial for many reasons to find an appropriate designation for this area between the Sneffels Wilderness and the private to act as a buffer zone to the wilderness and preserve the remote and quiet nature of this spectacular terrain. I would consider something that allows motorized use on the jeep trails / FS roads that currently exist, but that would not allow new motorized use in this area.

2. I would also suggest that recreation be considered as a public service worthy of some site development along with natural resource development.

3. I think there should be more specific guidelines for protecting big game with some non-negotiable protections and more detail when it comes to how watersheds should be protected.

4. I think there should be more planning to prevent user conflicts in highly desirable recreation areas even if there is not currently conflict. I think a little bit of good planning now in this area will save the Forest staff many hours of mitigation in years to come as the population dramatically increases as we realize it will soon do. I think planning what areas the Forest would like new recreation development to occur in will help with this as well as realizing when different user groups just need to use different areas.

5. I think the Forest should accommodate truly SUSTAINABLE resource harvesting as it is an important part of a diverse economy and more importantly, we are all consuming these materials.

6. I think it is important for the Forest to encourage and support ranching. I also think there needs to be more oversight for the spread of noxious weeds via livestock especially in and around Wilderness Areas. I think the current plan does not adequately address this.

Thank you for your time and inclusion of public comment.

Sincerely,

Kelly Ryan

San Juan Hut Systems