Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/30/2019 3:39:11 PM

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Title:

Comments: I strongly support the Rico Trails Project proposal. We have very few trails in this area that are suitable for introductory level hiking and biking. Most trails are steep and quite technical. The proposed Rio Grande Southern trail will provide a much needed connection between Rico and the Scotch Creek and Ryman/Salt Creek trail systems, with sections that will be suitable for beginner and intermediate level biking and hiking. It will also provide a safer alternative to getting to and from these trail heads instead of riding on the shoulder of Hwy 145 with high speed traffic and trucks. I also strongly support the non-motorized status of the Rio Grande Southern trail and the planned improvements to the Lower Ryman and upper Circle trails. The noise, pollution, and damage from two wheel and quad motorized vehicles has had a significant negative impact on wildlife and the quality of the mountain trails in this area. Please help us preserve this beautiful area for future generations.