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First name: Eric
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: I am fully supportive of this proposed section of trail and the greater connectivity it can provide in the future. I am an upper Crystal Valley resident and probably the closest biker to the trail (Old McClure section). Presently, I ride the trail quite often as it is the only mountain bike trail in this end of the valley. Keeping this section as a legitimate single track and maintaining the natural surface would be my preferred design. This approach is also more financially doable and less invasive to the resource.

A large part of the reason many of us live here is the natural beauty of this valley, and that does include the wildlife. The reason this valley is so amazing has to do with the preponderance of federal lands, this valley belongs to all of the citizens of the US. Most of the negative comments I have heard and read are full of NIMBY sentiments that have no place in the planning process. It was allowable for many of these people to build their homes in the habitat of the wildlife they profess to want to protect, but it is now time to shut the door.

Another "bucket" of negative comments revolves around the impending congestion and arrival of evil doers who will use a bike trail as their conduit for illegal activities. This is essentially another NIMBY argument that is thrown up against trail development every where in the country. I work in the active travel industry and have watched and been involved in the development of many trails around the US for more than 2 decades. Never has this onslaught of felons developed in concert with a trail. Quite the opposite situation follows trails. There are no better visitors than those who are working at being outside and involved with active engagement of nature. This visitor group tends to leave a resouce better than it found it and they leave a positive economic footprint in their wake.

I do not believe that we need to build trails everywhere and every time an opportunity presents itself. This area and this resource lend themself to this level of development. Within the larger vision of the C'Dale to CB trail I do have questions about the various proposed types of trail. While the entire corridor would be truly a long distance trail, the varied conditons would not lend itself to a single type of rider/bike and thus would limit the "destination" scope of the resource. Never the less this unique resource shuld be made available to the public.

Thank you for your engagement of the community.