

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/21/2020 3:14:50 PM

First name: Denali

Last name: Barron

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear USFS,

Thank you for accepting public comments on the Wildwood put-in for floating the Roaring Fork River through North Star Preserve.

I have lived in Aspen for almost 10 years and think of North Star Preserve as a special place - for the river to flood during spring runoff, for elk to descend on fall evenings, for beavers and muskrats to build in, for moose to wander, for great blue herons (hopefully, one day, again) raise their chicks, and for people to visit and appreciate. The increased frequency and impact of human use on the North Star Preserve over the past several years makes me sad... the great blue herons abandoned their rookery, the beaver dams get broken down, dogs disturb all manner of wildlife, and it generally feels more like a party spot than a nature preserve. We have so many other places for that in our upper valley that aren't sensitive wetland nature preserves! I feel strongly that a management policy limiting human use, banning glass, and banning dogs is the right choice for the Wildwood put-in.

If a new management plan is made, it must also be enforced by the Sheriff! Otherwise, there's no point in making a new management plan.

Thank you for your consideration and care of this important spot.

Denali Barron