

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/1/2020 1:55:27 AM

First name: Ellie

Last name: Finlay

Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a 47 year resident of Eagle County, I STRONGLY OPPOSE this project!

I sent a comment earlier but I was not strictly talking about the testing phase, so I am re-submitting my comment because I don't want it to be kicked out because I also mentioned the DAM. Cutting new roads??? Destroying precious wetlands? Disturbing wildlife when they are raising young and trying to get ready to survive the winter? Cutting trees? ALL these things I strongly oppose. This is fragile habitat! This is irreplaceable riparian land! This involves wildlife that is already stressed to the max. This is lunacy! We know so much more about the Colorado River Basin now, than we did 20 years ago. When the Agreements were forged, with Front Range Communities, the data used was gathered during a particularly wet period. We KNOW we will never have that much water in the Colorado River Basin again! Global warming, development, fires, low moisture snowpacks, parched land which soaks up the melting snowpack all contribute to decreased stream flows on the Western Slope. We simply do not have the water that was allocated in earlier agreements. The numbers no longer work. Seismic testing causes a huge disruption to the area, both to the plants and to the wildlife. Cutting trees and building roads increases erosion and noxious weed infestations, and harms wildlife. Noise, dust, vibrations, vehicle pollution all are damaging and unnecessary. I and so many others, enjoy this public land and it needs to be protected! It is valuable land even to those who never visit the area because this land filters and naturally stores water, provides habitat for threatened species, helps clean pollution from the air and is beautiful land. Being there soothes the soul. Do not spoil it by allowing the major disruption of road building, tree cutting, seismic testing, habitat destruction, pollution and human encroachment. This project is heavily flawed! Do not allow this testing to proceed! This is a terrible idea and the focus is destruction. Let's work together to come up with alternatives to this project.