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First name: Gregory Last name: Barker Organization:

Title:

Comments: I support the Rico Trails Project and progress it represents toward improved recreation opportunities for Rico and surrounding areas.

The project should be modified to eliminate the spring closure of the Ryman Creek trail. As noted in section 4.1.4 of the draft Biological Assessment, the project meets Forest Plan objectives and guidelines with or without this closure. If there are determined to be impacts to elk populations from trail use, the Forest Service can work with the CPW at that time to mitigate those effects. The Forest Service shouldn't eliminate the possibility for multiple types of trail users to benefit from this trail for a month-and-a-half period that represents a significant portion of the recreation season.