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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Like most Albuquerque residents, I have been recreating in the Sandias for nearly my entire life, and can count 5 decades of using both the west and the east sides countless times every year. It is a refuge for hikers, bicyclists, families who want to picnic or sightsee with out of town guests. It is a winter wonder for snowshoers and skiers, assuming enough snow. But it also a place where one can find orchids growing in the forest duff, columbine, swamp cabbage, and see deer, bobcats, and bear and mountain lions if lucky (unlucky?). We have managed to have a place in our backyard where we can both engage in recreation and preserve a surprisingly natural place. We need to keep it that way. The plan for a mountain coaster will cut into lovely old and important swaths of mature forest. It will bring more people into an area that already has large visitorship, for nothing more than a ride down a coaster in the mountains. It is not a use compatible with interacting with and appreciating natural places. The same thing is available at Uncle Cliff's. I do not know whether to harangue, to beg, or to weep to keep the forest service from approving this terrible project.