Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/31/2021 3:10:21 AM First name: Luna Last name: Natoli Organization:

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Comments: The Mountain Coaster Project is a highly problematic proposal which threatens the delicate ecosystem of the Sandia Mountains. Not only would the project be destructive and disruptive to the habitats of countless birds, pollinators, deer, and a variety of other flora and fauna unique to the Sandia Mountains, it would have long term implications for the ecosystem. The increased visitation to the remote mountain peak would result in an increase in traffic, emissions, and noise pollution, all of which would have disastrous impacts on the barelypreserved wilderness of the Sandia Mountains. The cable system proposed to tow the coaster cars back up the mountain sounds very similar to the tram constructed over the Sandia Foothills, which not only disrupted the ecosystem and marred the face of the mountains when it was built, but continues to disrupt the beautiful canyon below with ceaseless mechanical noise pollution. If you've ever hiked the Domingo Baca Trail in the Sandia Foothills, you know exactly how unnatural the juxtaposition of infrastructure and the natural world is and how disruptive it can be for the wildlife. Rather than investing in further destruction of the Sandia Mountains wilderness, we should utilize the funds available to maintain the trails, clean up the trash that accumulates along the crest road from the already excessive daily traffic, and create educational engagement programs to encourage people to explore the Sandia Mountains and celebrate their natural wonder. The Sandia Mountains were held in high esteem by the people of the Sandia Pueblo long before colonizers settled in this area, and the further destruction and mismanagement of their land by the federal government only perpetuates a cycle of mistreatment and mistrust. Rather than becoming another story of sacred lands destroyed for profit, let's respect the beautiful wilderness of the Sandia Mountains and keep the technologic toys and entertainment in the city where they belongs.