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First name: Cirrelda

Last name: Snider-Bryan

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Referring to "Sandia Peak Ski Area Mountain Coaster" #56985.

I am a 44 year resident of Bernalillo County, NM, and have hiked and skied in the Sandia Mountains annually, as well as led youth and adult hikes there as both ABq Public Schools classroom teacher and NM Museum of Natural History and Science educator, in addition to being an environmental artist engaged in community art about area habitats in Placitas- the Pathways Wildlife Mural. I know the area well, and I know its value for wildlife, water storage, recreation, as well as being held sacred by its original inhabitants, members of Sandia Pueblo- Tuf Shorn Tui, to the west, who have struggled to maintain their homeland. I oppose the idea of building a roller coaster in the area around the ski area because of the forceful impact that machinery, foot and car traffic, noise, soil compaction, and more would have on the already over-used fragile ecosystem that exists in the Sandias. The ecosystem-including plant and animal species, soil, water, and air quality- are currently very heavily used by the public from the closeby urban area. An Environmental Impact study is definitely called for because of the intrusive nature of the proposed interactive machinery. Nearby Hiway 165 follows fragile headwaters of Las Huertas perennial stream going north, as well as numerous other waterways that create springs for drinking water in the village of Placitas and the Land Grant and Las Acequias traditional irrigation community. Nearby wilderness-designated lands have wildlife surrounded on 3 out of 4 sides by urban development. Wildlife corridors to the northeast of the ski area provide the last true connectivity to access areas to the north for species with large land needs. All that I bring up point to the need for assessment of this recreational machinery to be introduced on private land adjacent to National Forest and Wilderness.. please include my comments in your report, and keep me informed.

Thank you for this opportunity, and for your attention.