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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Split decision on this planned path for me, i believe this project has Pros and cons for the Crystal River Valley, i believe a soft surface trail would be more ascetically pleasing but i also believe a hard surface trail could be beneficial. With the section proposed for this usage a hard surface trail would be great to get all road bikes off of highway 133, as a person that constantly travels hwy 133 with a trailer those tight turns and twists i have had several near misses with bicycles, a law should be formed that if this path passes road bikes should be banned from the highway and forced onto the path. I believe the impact of the trail would be low since it is next to the highway and existing wagon beds. This trail will give locals a way to access redstone without having to drive everywhere. another concern is parking, i believe this trail will begin at the coke ovens, the coke ovens parking area is small and already hard to access, leaving the redstone stables with a trailer is sometimes difficult as vehicles stick out into the narrow road when parking. only 10 or so cars are able to park at the coke ovens at a time, forcing parking in other areas such as the Redstone Inn, and along coal basin road none of which should happen. I believe the trail should be maintained through the winter if built, it would be a waste of money to have a trail used 5-6 months out of the year, Pitkin County maintains the lower river road trail well every year for snowshoers, cross country skiers and fat tire bikes, a year round usage of the trail would be more beneficial than a 5 month usage. i already know that the coke ovens trails are not maintained through the winter which is unfortunate so keeping this trail maintained seems to be a far reach as well, 600' in redstone and 7 miles is a huge difference. is the soft surface trail going to hold up to winter and summer conditions, whats the maintenance costs going to be, what will be the impacts to parking on top of mcclure pass and redstone. i would like to know if the USFS has met with open space about parking issues, and trail maintenance even in summer. with CPW about seasonal closures for wildlife if needed, and the USFS should also meet with the Redstone Community Association to allow the board members and community hear the plans and voice questions and concerns.