Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/2/2022 3:51:42 PM

First name: Benjamin Last name: Ludlow Organization:

Title:

Comments: I applaud the efforts of everyone associated with developing a comprehensive plan for the Redstone to McClure Pass trail. Your efforts have spurred many conversations about how the upper Crystal Valley is used and what the future should look like. As a resident, cyclist, winter recreation user, and hiker of this area, I find the idea of removing pedestrian traffic from HWY 133 quite laughable as the number of pedestrians is a very minimal amount. As a person who commutes this route every day I can guarantee that the pedestrian uses are far less than the wildlife along HWY 133. The larger issue is bicycle traffic. Although the spring through fall months provide ample opportunity for cyclists to enjoy this stretch of highway, it can become dangerous for everyone especially with the amount of tourist vehicular traffic that is not familiar with the cycling use in the area. Having said that, there is no cyclist that will use an unpaved trail section as that does not appeal to the type of cycling that occurs in this area. Furthermore, the proposed winter closure of the area is quite absurd with the amount of people who use the McClure Pass area for backcountry skiing and others who use the old McClure pass trail for winter hiking. Closing this area will have a large impact on winter recreation and will have no impact on wildlife in the area. Wildlife is abundant and will continue to be abundant whether or not a trail is constructed. In closing, I am opposed to a gravel path as it will not be used by the road cyclists that currently use 133 for travel. In addition, I am opposed to a trail that will be closed in the winter months. In general, I am opposed to this project as presented.