

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/3/2022 8:36:01 PM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello, I would like to recommend you support and build the Redstone to McClure Pass trail. I have lived in the Roaring Fork valley since 1977. As a lifelong cyclist I have ridden Highway 133 many times, but not for over the last 10 years as the highway is too dangerous to cyclists with the current level and speed of car and truck traffic. We must continue to build trails to offer cyclists a safe alternative to highway travel. It will also increase the safety for motor vehicles on the highway as they won't have to slow and wait to pass bikes on the road. Some people object to the proposed trail for the following reasons: 1. it may be bad for wildlife. By far the biggest threat to wildlife in the upper Crystal valley is motor vehicle traffic on the road. The proposed trail sections not next to the road will follow an historic wagon road that has been used for nearly 100 years. The idea that some bikes will disturb wildlife on these short sections seems to be not logical. I think this idea is more about certain people not wanting anything new in their backyard rather than concern for wildlife. 2. People are concerned that this will become part of a longer trail network. The trail under consideration can stand alone on its' own merits and may or may not be connected to a longer trail network. Please see my comment above: we must build trails to separate bikes from car traffic and we need many more alternatives than this one trail. 3. People say this will bring about a loss of rural character. Well, anyone who has been in the valley for over 40 years has seen a loss of rural character due to vastly increased vehicle traffic and growth encroaching into rural areas. Bikes are a big part of the solution to our growth problems. Every bike is "one less car" and if we see an increase in bikes then the highway is that much more livable for all of us. This trail is a win for bikers and a win for people in cars. Thank You, Dan Johns