

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/8/2022 2:13:55 AM

First name: Stephen

Last name: Ellsperman

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to provide support for the Redstone to McClure Pass Trail Project proposed by Pitkin County on five (5) miles of lands administered by the USDA Forest Service - White River National Forest. Our small community of Carbondale joins the greater region to finally see motion on the concept of this critical recreational amenity that will allow forest visitors to experience their public lands, connect with communities in the upper Crystal Valley in an important economic way, and be able to move safely in a recreational experience that has little to no impact to ecological resources associated with the route. The project will provide no net loss of rural character (HWY 133 and significant residential development are the only adjacent properties), it is a proposed safe surface that allows residents and visitors a safe way to travel the corrido, and there are no cumulative impacts to this system (this is a road adjacency project!). One of the great aspects of the project is that wildlife habitat will actually be IMPROVED based upon a proposed season closure. Thanks for reviewing my and our community looks forward to the day that we can access our public lands safely with the vision of multi distance opportunities on the White River National Forest!