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First name: Owen Last name: Whiting Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hi please accept these comments supporting the North Valley Trails Project. I was born and raised in Crested Butte and access to trails and the outdoors were an integral part of my childhood and where I learned to connect with nature. I would like to see this project approved to help make our trail network better and so more people have more opportunities to use our public lands. My biggest concern is that the Upper Cement Creek extension to Crystal Peak was recommended for removal for consideration. It is ironic that the main picture on the USFS "Story Map" is a picture of riders on Crystal Peak, and the next picture is of a few kids(like me when I was younger) on Upper Cement riding off the road, yet the extension of that trail to Crystal Peak was not recommended? Upper Cement is an easier trail that gets riders off the road and our family uses it all the time and is a place I can still ride with my 75 year old Grandpa. The only problem is that it's pretty short. I would love to see it extended further up the valley so we can all stay off the road and safely enjoy our public lands. I am in college now but would love to be able to use this trail when I return home in the summers and maybe have a place to teach my own kids how to ride.