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Comments:

To whom it may concern at Kit Carson Nat'l Forest:

The Forest Service study concerning the TSV proposal for new construction and improvements is too complicated and will have too much impact on down slope neighbors/inhabitants of the Rio Hondo Valley to be a "study". There needs to be a formal Environmental Impact Statement, regardless of deadlines for receiving federal funds. The Forest Service needs to maintain its historical commitment as a proper steward to this unique Place here, now and in the future, by choosing to really look at what all aspects of this plan can mean.

The Kachina Basin acts as headwaters of the Rio Hondo. The Valley has a deep and narrow water table: sourcing a very large water tank up there for recreational development jeopardizes fragile ecology, especially with prudent planning for drought tolerance in days and years ahead. Irrigation relies on surface water, it requires deliberate design and maintenance to control leakage and erosion. The values expressed in TSV development plans should be consistent with the historical care shown the surface and below ground waters in this valley and the watershed it forms.

Any degree of contamination could not only impact potable water in homes, livestock and gardens in Valdez, Upper and Lower Arroyo Hondo, but also the water quality in the Rio Grande (classified and protected as a Wild and Scenic River.) Other points in the plan deserve a deeper look as well.

I am a longtime parciante in Arroyo Seco who uses water from above Valdez, whose children and grandchildren love to hike and ski in TSV, and who treasures the sources and living health of vital waters. Please keep a positive connection to the communities and resources you serve, and insist on a thorough and complete assessment.

Thank you