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Organization:

Title:

Comments: We currently live 1.5 miles below the proposed Mt. Emmons land exchange in Carbon Creek. WE are disappointed that this exchange is taking place and feel it would be in the best interest of everyone if the Forest Services actually sell this particular property.

Reasons:

The FS already struggles to keep up with road maintenance of all FS roads in Gunnison county. The roads are NEVER graded, kept up, and too many are being closed which offers little access to handicapped and elderly individuals. We suggest that the FS sell this property and use funds to put personnel back into the field to care for what tax payers already pay for and rarely can use.

To CLOSE down another road and to tear down a home and pay to cart away all materials is not a good use of any funds. Refer to above, FS does not take care of current obligations as it is. Sell the property.

Your letter states that this is a perfect elk, deer, Canada Lynx migration route. We have lived down the road for nearly 7 years and have game cameras out everywhere all year long. We have NEVER seen a Canada lynx on any camera at any time of year. Coyotes, fox, mtn lion, bear, deer, elk, most certainly. This area receives tons of snow each winter and most species either hibernate or migrate away from this area completely. The elk and deer return in spring to calve, the bears wake to begin feasting, and the mtn lions move through randomly. Fox remain year round, and sometimes you may see a moose in the area in wintertime.

We cannot imagine that you would pay such high fees to tear down and house, not to mention close ONE MORE road. If you intend to close the road, we hope that it is ONLY the actual driveway that extends from the entry gate to the actual house. So many people access this road for hunting, camping, fishing, and enjoyable drives. I use this road weekly to walk and enjoy the peaceful nature.

We are hoping that this land exchange ends in the sale of property to preserve the peaceful integrity of the Carbon Creek valley. We do not want to see this beautiful area closed down in ways that we have seen other areas destroyed by FS closures. (One example being the road to the Enterprise Mine in Taylor Park. The funds spent on that road closure and the time taken to destroy such roads is a disgrace. One cannot even walk on the road as it is completely destroyed).