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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for extending the comment period.

I have lived and worked in Durango for 42 years, 25 of which I have made my home in the Junction Creek area.

Two of the FS proposals for this area have merit:

1 and 2. Junction Creek Road: Enlarging parking lots both at the lower and upper lot at mile 1.2, installing year-round bathrooms at both locations. There is a tremendous need for these improvements.

Several of the FS project proposals pose a detriment.

1. Paving the road to the overlook

There are so many reasons this is a bad idea: detriment to wildlife, wildlife collisions, increased noise, increased traffic, irresponsible partying, cost to maintain the road, etc. The public has been respecting winter closures to protect and provide for wildlife. It seems counterproductive to open a large area of FS land to paving and traffic.

2. Paving the lower trail

I see this as another terrible idea. The lower trail is in a constricted area which already has an abundance of foot and bike traffic. It gets little sun and experiences heavy ice and snow all winter. The amount of repairs to maintain it seem unreasonable to me. It feels like the wrong place to consider ADA trail placement.

3. Expanding the Log Chutes trails.

We have hundreds and hundreds of miles of mountain biking terrain in this area. I oppose any further development of trails at Log Chutes.

4. Opening the Falls Creek Archaeological Area

I am adamantly opposed to this; it must stay protected. Let's demonstrate respect to the tribes in the area.

Thank you for hearing me.