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Comments: Ref: Catamount Spring Creek Project 63036 Scoping Letter Page 4 Alternative 2

The proposed action for Alternative 2 and the map on page 6 refers to the development of improved access using FS 537. That access will include crossing 3 miles through the Archeological District and another 5.4 miles through steep and challenging terrain to reach Pargin MTN UT 2.

Although the existing condition of FS 537 currently allows public access during a part of the year, it seems reasonable to suggest that significantly improving the road will inevitably result in a considerable increase in public use through an increase in awareness of improved access.

If the potential for increasing public use is deemed credible then several obvious concerns arise.

The first is undesirable or unacceptable exploration of the sensitive archeological district. The second is OHV traffic off of FS 537 that results in surface damage and erosion, particularly during wet periods. The third, in conjunction with OHV use during hunting season is an increased potential for surface damage and resulting erosion.

Will the EA consider issues and impacts from public use such as closure of FS 537 to any public access, fencing and access restrictions to protect the Archeological District, restricting motor vehicle use and OHV use to FS 537, and monitoring to detect and prevent further surface damage?