

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2023 6:35:25 PM

First name: Coquette

Last name: Collins

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I believe this to be an important project for the Pagosa Springs area.

We are a growing community with a large interest in outdoor activities - two of the most popular being mountain biking and hiking. Locals and tourists alike enjoy our nearby trails.

Jackson Mountain will greatly expand the available trails in a responsible way. They are well thought out, will be sustainable and provide a more varied terrain profile from what is currently available. The close proximity to the downtown area, the greater elevation changes in the terrain and the thoughtful design of the trail system provide a unique opportunity. There is nothing like this currently available to Pagosans or visitors.

The partnership of USFS, IMBA and DUST2 among others on this project is very important and allows for a trail design considering all the different user groups and goals and the long term maintenance of the system as a whole.

The current Turkey Springs trail system is a good comparison project for the Jackson Mountain area. Before a trail system was considered, usage was happening within Turkey Springs. Unauthorized, improperly designed, unsustainable trails were being created. The USFS took over the maintenance (partnering with users groups) and the system now provides a fantastic area for the many, varied users groups utilizing trails in Archuleta.

As our area grows in population and interest in getting outdoors increases, trail usage will also increase. The Jackson Mountain Trail System over time, will provide a needed expansion of nearby trails.