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Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a 20 year resident of Archuleta County working in Government, Construction and the service industry I am fully aware of the importance and NEED of a gravel pit. I live adjacent to the land proposed for the gravel pit and I wholeheartedly support the development of this mine. I will support the mine in my back yard long before I will support the proposed multi miles of new bike trails. The trails are a desire for a select group of individuals and less necessary compared to a gravel pit which would serve all residents and tourists in Archuleta County. The argument about noise is not valid in my opinion. I live 50 feet off the highway and on the bottom of a slope. And have minimal noise pollution even with big trucks and their Jake brakes compared to my nearest neighbor who lives 1500' off the highway but higher than the highway and his noise pollution is significantly higher. The other argument about dust is also minimal. The prevailing winds will blow the dust deeper into the forest to the north and east and the amount of trees downhill to the south and west of the proposed pit would significantly help to filter the air. The truth is Archuleta county and the San Juan Archuleta County ranger district need this pit to both maintain and improve existing roads and trails. This is a need not a desire for the community.