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Organization:

Title:

Comments: RE: Jackson MTN Landscape Plan 2.21.23,

As an outdoors advocate for responsible recreating, industrial harvesting and forest management it currently seems the USFS is overcome by the current trail systems work load for example most of the loop high country connecting trails are not cleared until late summer/fall. Adding more trails to maintain doesn't appear to be responsible use of our taxpayer funds.

With population growth, E bikes and more use of the current trail systems like the Monument park to PS area trail ATV users have basically pushed out the horse and hiker biker groups. It is very hard to please all the users all the time, also the "market" changes requiring adaptations or suppression of one user group to appease another, I hope the US FS and Dust 2 are impeccable stewards of the resource's trusted in their sites, I also hope the planners and leaders have considered the longer term environmental and fiscal costs of this additional scoped bike only users area. I ask "Can the FS maintain the current trails ? " "and user areas with a Grade A performance? " By example why has the FS allowed the "user made" trails in the project area? Not enough staff to mitigate it? Basically rewarding the folks that created the trails where they should have not been is how I see this plan turning out. Feeding the bears.....

The Archuleta County area is stranded when it comes to aggregate building materials sources (gravel) and levels of cost/ services are directly affected. One of the main attractions to the area is beauty, natural biology provides the lures that draw the revenues and demands for ever increasing consumption. My question is "What is driving the need for a gravel pit in the planned area and is it worth losing the benefits that currently exist and undeniably will be damaged by the installation of a mining operation?" Q2 "Does the county and local agencies currently have a used aggregates recycling program?" Does demo'd asphalt and concrete end up in gullies and landfills? Is there a plan to accommodate recycling of these materials at the proposed mining gravel pit?

In Conclusion it is an irresponsible expansion of trails resources at this time and adding a gravel pit in the area is not an overall beneficial win for our community long term.

Word of caution: E bikes use in natural setting, very risky, slippery slope. Not sure Where the Line is drawn, the more users and user trails for Mountain bikes (single user group) will increase the pressure to "allow" electric motorized use in trails. Thank you Gabe Candelaria