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First name: Kristeen

Last name: Harris

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a constituent of Archuleta County and a gravel pit is NOT compatible with an outdoor recreation location like Jackson Mountain.

I wanted to share with you my top ten reasons why I love Jackson Mountain.

The reasons I love Jackson Mountain:

- 1) Close proximity to downtown Pagosa Springs.
- 2) Trails for hiking, biking, camping, cross-country skiing galore.
- 3) Snowball Road hooks up to the trail system to travel in a loop...Adventure all day and ride into town to get a nice cold beer at the brewery or go sit in one of the Hot Springs.
- 4) Wildlife sightings of assorted mammals, birds, and reptiles.
- 5) The diverse landscape from open meadows, thick aspen groves, ponderosas and gorgeous views.
- 6) An easy access to sit amongst nature, breathe clean mountain air, meditate, reflect and mentally heal.
- 7) Spring and summer flowers!
- 8) Used and loved in all 4 seasons: Spring, Summer, Winter, and Fall
- 9) The educational potential of Jackson Mountain for school groups to enjoy is immense.
- 10) Jackson Mountain is a treasure to be preserved for our next generation of outdoor enthusiasts.

I would like to elaborate on point #9: Educational potential of Jackson Mountain and school groups.

I am a teacher at Pagosa Springs Elementary School and Jackson Mountain is my first choice to introduce outdoor education to the next generation of nature enthusiasts. Here are my reasons: Location, location, location...our school bus is not traveling 40+ miles down a rugged dirt road, if an emergency occurs with a student we can transport a child out of the area with ease without disturbing the experience for other students. Chaperones and parents can join in on the day and/or overnight adventure plus return to the comfort of their homes, all within an easy reasonable drive.

Power to the people!

We are a tourist town. Our economy is based on tourism. People come from all over the world to enjoy our natural beauty! Jackson Mountain will serve more people in our tourist town than a gravel pit. We will love and care for a special place like Jackson Mountain far more than it being used as a gravel pit, which is in direct contrast to our overwhelming tourist-base economy.

Happy adventuring,

Kristeen Harris