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First name: Jeff

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Mr. Peck,

We met on the trail the first day you were meeting with the County representative about the gravel pit location on Jackson Mountain. You gave me a brief overview and since it was very early in the process there were no details available. It seems like the scope of the pit has grown considerably since then. I waited along with everyone else to hear the plans on how the Forest Service would be able to integrate a gravel pit into the highly used recreational area that Jackson Mountain is already.

I have lived in my home in San Juan River Village for 22 years and there are at least 56 other families who live here full time. I have seen multiple thinning operations and most recently the fuels reduction work and Aspen restoration work. When they were hauling out logs Jackson Mountain Road was to be avoided. It was scary facing down those large trucks on the narrow roads. Gravel trucks weighing in at up to 75,000 pounds are much worse and they do not stop well going downhill on gravel roads.

Unless you can separate the two uses by building an alternate road I can't see how you can safely proceed.

The pit would be operating during the entire extremely busy summer season and Jackson Mountain Road is at the end of one of the only passing zones in the area. Slow moving trucks entering the highway and trucks turning left onto JMR at this point would cause a major traffic hazard.

I don't see how CDOT can approve your access to highway 160 without the addition of accel/decel lanes and a left turn lane for Jackson Mountain Road.

Has there been a full season traffic study done on Jackson Mountain Road? Has there been a traffic study done during the summer season on highway 160 at this point? These things must be done before this project proceeds any further to determine what road improvements have to be completed so that a cost/benefit analysis can be done to determine if this gravel really is cost effective if it has to be done right.

Thank you for considering my input on the gravel pit. I am all in for the bike trails!

Take care, Jeff

Jeff Hester