

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/4/2023 7:28:00 PM

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Organization:

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Comments: I own property in Alpine. The only way we can get to Alpine is CR 162. I am extremely opposed to dispersed camping along 162. As it is, Chalk Creek Canyon is top of the list of county evacuation concerns due to one way in and out. People ignore no campfire rules as it is. The Forest Service has documented that 30% of forest fires are caused by campfires. We have seen an increase in wildlife in the area which will not return with more people. Trash is already an issue as is traffic. People already ignore posted signs and park in Alpine to offload ATV's, snow machines, or walking to the Mt. Antero trailhead and fishing spots. Calls to the FS or county sheriff are frequently unanswered as it is due to staffing pressures. Residents have resorted to asking campers to leave illegal campsites. This is not what we should have to do. 162 is different than the other proposed areas in that there are occupied, platted communities of St. Elmo and Alpine which will be very negatively impacted. I understand others want to be in the mountains, but I would suggest expanding existing campgrounds where environmental damage can be controlled. Dispersed camping guarantees people will be driving in areas they shouldn't. Adding a new, small campground at Agnes Vaille falls, or the FS information locations or allowing camping at Cascade lake are better options. Please don't make problems that are not controlled as it is even worse.