

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/15/2023 11:15:48 PM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am part of the Charles N. Kennedy family that built a cabin in back in 1956 in Alpine in between CR 162 and CR 292. We have enjoyed this special get-a-way for 67 years, even in light of the tremendous increase in recreational use on adjacent public lands. The "Notice of Proposed Action for Dispersed Camping Management on the Salida and Leadville Ranger Districts" was met with significant concerns within our family. In our opinion, the two roadways identified in Chalk Creek Canyon are not practical or acceptable for dispersed camping. Fire is a game-stopper for this proposal because dispersed campers historically have ignored the "no campfires" limitation except in designated campsites. This is particularly alarming in the ever increasing drought years. The Alpine community is particularly vulnerable to the whims of short-term users that have no respect for the private property that exists within the current proposal. Chalk Creek Canyon has no consistent, formal, infrastructure to monitor the impacts that dispersed camping entails. Garbage is left behind, the landscape is damaged, roadways are hampered (or even blocked) and the property values of tax-paying property owners are negatively impacted. We would like to go on record as opposed to the proposal for dispersed camping along CR 162 and CR 292. We believe the Forest Service should look at expanding the existing hard-site campgrounds in the vicinity of Chalk Creek Canyon so the impact of the visiting public can be satisfactorily monitored and managed. We thank you in advance for considering our views, which are shared by the preponderance of property owners in Chalk Creek Canyon.