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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I ask that the USFS consider these projects very carefully as although they may benefit a certain demographic they detract from the quality of life we have enjoyed in particular residents of the Arroyo Seco and Valdez area. Below are some of the issues that appear to be out of control and progressively worsening with the constant growth of the TSV projects.

1. Traffic - The ever-present traffic along Roads 150 and 230. These roads have become increasingly dangerous as the Ski Valley seems determined to channel more and more folks to the Ski Valley. The roads were never meant to handle that amount of traffic. It has gotten so bad many locals literally have to drive elsewhere in order to enjoy a bike ride or a walk without fear of being struck by a vehicle.

2. Pollution/Litter - I realize that with growth pollution and trash will increase in the form of more vehicles and more people however as a life-long member of this community it has hit an all time high and I assume will only worsen with more attractions/infrastructure.

Water - I use the water from the Rio Hondo to water a small orchard and regardless of the Ski Valleys waste treatment plant it is clearly evident that it is taking its toll on the quality of the water we once enjoyed. I know the USFS has the list of complaints from our local acequia association. I for one can tell you that what once was clear water no longer appears to be the case. After watering my orchard there is a very stagnant stench from the water which has never happened up until recently. It makes perfect sense that the more use the system get the greater the amount of waste that could be generated downstream. Lets not forget the additional snowmaking from the proposed water line.

Wildlife - The wildlife in the area are being driven to lower elevations as a result of the constant barrage of hikers/skiers. I have noticed this first hand as there are records numbers of deer/bear scrounging at my orchard. Although this issue stems from many other things than just the expansion and population growth the TSV projects will likely add to the problem.

I realize that growth is inevitable and its just how it is however the Ski Valley has had tremendous growth in the past few years. At what point will this stop? Please take into account these and other issues which I am sure you are aware of when granting constant growth to an area which was never meant to handle anywhere near the current level. I humbly ask for your consideration in these important matters.