

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/22/2023 4:09:07 AM

First name: Kristin

Last name: Swim

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am disappointed that the Carson National Forest made the decision to conduct an EA instead of the full EIS that is necessary to protect our land, water and wildlife. It is the sole discretion of the FS to make that decision based their determination that project does not meet the NEPA threshold for an EIS ("significantly affect the human environment"). The comments you received during the scoping period illustrate the need for a full EIS. The scope of this project is substantial. Installing a gondola will have huge impacts on soil, erosion, wildlife, flora & fauna, the watershed, and the viewshed, etc. (all of this and then some discussed in many comment letters you received). Not only will the impacts during the construction be consequential, but the cumulative effects are something that are necessary for your study to cover. The threshold for an EIS depends on these increased impacts, and building a new lift and a new restaurant will increase visitation to a sensitive area. There are also no alternatives addressed in your EA, which is mandatory.