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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Persistent Problems - Arapaho/Roosevelt NF :

Caring for the Land:

Sadly it isn't at all difficult to find examples of poor stewardship and unmanaged land on ARNF: Vast systems of illegal mountain bike trails and motorized use, residency (not camping) with accumulated trash and human waste, fake mining claims (recreational, not mining) with perceived driving access and construction (tent platforms, outhouses, storage sheds) and uncorrected attempts of private landowners landlocking or signing public lands and roads as their own.

Addressing Unsustainable Recreation is a Forest Service directive at the national level. So why is it so overlooked here? Empty sign boards and kiosks seem to be the rule when there is so much education (and enforcement) to be done. For example, almost no one knows about the Travel Management Rule that made the Motor Vehicle Use Map - or the 14 Day Camping Limit. Other National Forests seem to manage this basic education - why not here?

Serving People:

The large Boulder Office/Visitor Center has been closed since 2020. The only way to reach managers is through a Visitor Information worker (no manager emails or phone numbers are provided even when requested). No call backs or emails are ever returned to this public land owner. I see from the St. Vrain Reading Room that others have the same problem.

The contact for a recent official NEPA scoping project wouldn't answer the questions that I needed to make an informed comment. That's illegal. NEPA is out of date - and deadlines matter. Sometimes the contacts don't even know that they are - or don't respond. SOPA is your interface with the public. It should be exemplary.

I am polite and selective in what I ask but ghosting conservationists and treating them like pests is a norm. It is dispiriting not to be able to correct abusive conditions and see them worsen on my valued public land.

If there are problems with the implementation and results with the St. Vrain Project I am skeptical about corrections. The leadership - and respect for the land or the public - are not there.

Additionally I raised a point requesting the protection of scenic and habitat qualities of Rocky Knolls. You responded that they aren't logged because the terrain is difficult. I would be happy to show you examples (Ridge Road, Gordon Gulch) where trees were felled and then not retrieved which degraded them. Protecting Rocky Knolls should be a design standard as it is in Forsythe 2.

Thanks.