Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/15/2024 5:59:48 PM First name: Max Last name: Cooper Organization: San Miguel Bike Alliance Title: president

Comments: This trail proposal is a great step forward for Telluride and San Miguel Bike Alliance is in support. Having witnessed the various responses to the recent new trail construction, namely confusion and opposition from bikers at the thought of new trails they didn't understand; and now a few years on, those same people are converted fans of the new trails. Similar feedback has been unsurprising relative to the new Sunshine uphill and Illium flume trail proposals. It therefore seems likely that the various grumpy opposers will come around when they're able to ride those new trails and experience a whole new zone. Being able to bypass the roads and stay on singletrack is absolutely the best option for mountain bikers. The rehabbing of the sunshine mesa trail loop makes me chuckle, to think of the time the bulldozer drove up and buried the tractor trailer, the resulting scar wasn't as long lasting as expected, but either way, the long dirt road climb to get to a short singletrack makes it a hard one to ride often. Rerouting in such a steep area will be challenging, and the wilson mesa trail with the endless steep ruts needs a comprehensive reroute, but that's not on the list. The Sheep mountain traverse would also be amazing, within the corridor of the existing road, offering stunning views and rolling terrain, it would be a gem. Given the existing lynx scenario and wilderness bill, this seems like a tough sell, even though it's probably the most viable trail building location of them all. Connecting Mountain Village to Telluride is a particularly crucial missing link and it is great to see that the proposed trail is multiuse and not closed to bikes. This could be the most amazing trail, given the complexities of the corridor, a viable trail won't be easy to build, and I believe it would be best to braid hiking and biking segments together to create good passing areas throughout. Thanks to the USFS for the support, obviously this is a pressure cooker town with a short history of legal trail development, but we are seeing ever increasing use and spreading out the users and improving the options benefits us all.