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Comments: I am writing to OPPOSE the proposed Telluride Mountain Club Proponent-Driven Trail Proposal for USFS Submittal & SE Group NEPA Analysis

In particular, I am opposed to the proposed Sheep Mountain Traverse. It is in completely contradictory to the missions and efforts of NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) and *CORE (CO public lands protection act). Telluride Mountain Club's stated purpose " it is crucial we provide thoughtful, recreational trail opportunities that meet the needs of locals and visitors while protecting and preserving natural areas, critical wildlife habitats, and minimizing impacts to watersheds" and "we are focused on improving existing trails". The Galloping Goose trail already exists. However, a new singletrack road is proposed, which is unnecessary and negatively impacts the environment on the very steep contours of the slope. This forest is healthy. However, this trail would cause permanent destruction of the natural habitats, including fragile wetlands, which supports critical wildlife habitats. Evidence has shown that this severe type of stress on environments, esp forests, and weakens the ability to survive and is often cited as the critical basis of forest fires.

The trail would start from the old trestle parking lot. This is NOT a parking"lot". There are approx. 15 or less spots to park smaller cars, far less for larger vehicles, such as pick up trucks and SUVs.

Trail Option B "This alignment option would be challenging to build sustainably and would have to forgo many sustainable trail principles and USFS trail standards." Yet, Telluride Mt Club has submitted it for consideration. They conclude that "An established, legal trail in this area has the ability to keep scattered recreational use out of nearby sensitive and Wilderness areas. Trails like this help to build more support for conservation by creating a recreation opportunity where possible. It helps create a win-win-win scenario for recreation-minded people, conservation-focused folks, and wildlife. This is completely flawed. There is absolutely no factual scientific support of that statement. ' There is NO Win' for wildlife. In fact, is a huge loss for their habitat and ability to survive. Same for the forest and existing wetlands.

Please respect and enforce many sustainable trail principles and USFS trail standards and do not approve the Sheep Mtn Traverse.

Thank you