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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom it May Concern:

Recently we had a family reunion in the Eagle Ranch/Avon area. My aunt and uncle own a home in Eagle Ranch and we rented an AirBNB in Avon. The trip was lovely. One of our adventures was a horseback riding trip. I was recommended the name A.J. Brink as an excellent business. This outfitter has been a family business for over 47 years right at Sweetwater Lake. I called the owner, Adrienne, to alert her that one of our riders had a cast on his right arm. She was amazingly helpful and courteous and reassured me it would be no problem. Our little visit was wonderful and I was anxious to get there.

We arrived at our reunion the third weekend of June and had a wonderful time in Colorado's beautiful landscape. I am from Casper, Wyoming, and all of my children were born in Casper as well as my husband. We live and breathe the love of the west.

During our horseback ride we learned that campgrounds were going to be built and the Brink Horseback livelihood would be destroyed. This is why I am writing and it breaks my heart as well as disturbs me greatly. Losing the feeding grounds for the elk, the habitat for the bear and everything else for me is so short sided. We have precious few places that still host such beautiful areas for our wildlife. It grieves me to think it could be given over so quickly to RV's, campers, noise, pollution, electricity, vaults, hook-ups, and whatever else that interrupts wildlife. While I understand the desire for campgrounds, I do not understand placing a campground off of a narrow dirt road, over irrigated pastures, grazing grounds for the elk, and solitude near the lake.

I am an avid camper in Wyoming. I understand wanting others to see our great outdoors in the west. But I think the spots need to be chosen carefully and with consideration for all that are there first.... family owned businesses that have existed so very long who take great care of the land, and the animals and plants themselves. Dragging in machinery to create campgrounds, all the invasive species that come along with that, and the end of such beautiful pastures cannot be such an area to consider.

Thank you for your time,

Susan B. Masterson