

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/16/2024 1:23:58 PM

First name: Eric

Last name: Cottingham

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Adam and Tyler: Please note that I have lived in Summit County for 50 years as of this last May, currently residing in Dillon Valley. A recent trail project on property owned by the Denver Water Board has introduced bicycles to an area that my wife and I do a 2 mile hike daily. We have enjoyed not having bicycles to deal with, but have adapted to sharing this area peacefully and respectfully with cyclists now. The North side of Straight Creek trail we have used as a trail to teach our 4 children and now 4 grandchildren how to peacefully ride and respect all users. At 70 years old, access to our beloved backcountry has been with an ATV. We unload at the trailhead and although it's a short ride up to the creek where we turn around, our grandchildren love it. We slow down for pedestrians and I let the hikers know that I am teaching a grandchild how to respect other users. Cyclists, same thing, except on the downhill they always pass us. Motorcycles use this trail the most, we rarely see a cyclist or hiker. Eliminating access to the old cabin on the south side, shame on you. We've hiked that with all of our family members and treasure that. My sister-in-law just passed away this year, and she loved this hike. The trail erosion on the north side trail where the culvert deteriorated and water has been allowed to run down the road, has needed repairing for years. Similar to Wearyman Creek in the Holy Cross district where the creek was allowed to erode the road to a point where the forest service could close the road to all motorized traffic. I suggest that you make the repairs to the stream and road and use the north side as a shared experimental use where you teach respect to all users. You've closed Santa Fe Peak (Morgan Gulch Rd) and Saints Johns (CR 275) to unlicensed vehicles. The north side of straight creek trail has NO impact to homeowners. Quit closing off access to ATV's and start trying to teach shared respectful use of the back country. Please consider giving more weight to input from unlicensed users as there are probably 10 times the amount of bicyclists as ATV owners. And we pay the \$35 annual fee, cyclists do not. Sincerely written by a Colorado native and long time resident. Should you stop at the sign out on the Dillon rec path, just below the red rec path, acknowledging contributing individuals that helped build the rec path system, you will find my name!