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First name: Michael

Last name: Dyste

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I have been visiting Sweetwater Lake for 45 years. I am a property owner along Sweetwater Road. I have worked at Sweetwater Lake during my visits, and have seen the transition in ownership and use. I've seen the transition from a neglected bar and cabins, to a location rich in history; a popular recreational, fishing, hiking and hunting area, frequented by locals, residents of Colorado, and visitors from other parts of the country, and the world. The Recreation and Development Project proposed by the Colorado Park Service does not take into consideration guests from distances further from Eagle county, out of state or out of country. This is a trailer park. There is no consideration for other visitors who require lodging or food.

During my time, I have seen major mudslides on the narrow dirt road from the Colorado River Road to Sweetwater Lake both dangerous and unusable. Sweetwater is a rural dirt road, not constructed for the degree of traffic or weight restrictions, intended by this Project. I have witnessed accidents along this winding road that would prevent access for hours.

I have seen the congestion at Sweetwater Lake during the busiest season, fall hunting. It is unimaginable the impact this project will have on the land (Sweetwater and adjoining, White River National Forest), water, wildlife, trails, and other resources, year round. The intended usage does not take into account all the potential environmental impacts of this project. What level of administration, property management, maintenance, or usage / regulatory (crowd) control is intended to handle this increased usage?

This Project promotes usage by motorized campers, with areas set aside for camping. The Project does not accommodate, visitors requiring lodging, meals, groceries, or other services. There are no plans to add or renovate, cabins along the lake frontage, just more motor home pads.

This Project will turn Sweetwater Lake into an overcrowded trailer park, with resulting adverse environmental impacts.