Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/26/2024 3:45:27 PM First name: John Last name: Abbott Organization: Title: Comments: Sweetwater Lake is a special place. The NOI proposes to turn it into just another Colorado State Park that happens to be at the end of a ten mile gravel dead-end road.

The proposed capacity is extreme for such a small area and I am honestly unsure what 250 people would be able to do there without destroying the ecosystem.

Using birds as one example, how does USFS plan to protect the Black Swift, Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Golden Eagle, Swainson's Hawk, Virginia's Warbler, Brewer's Sparrow, and Lazuli Bunting? These are all birds of concern nesting in the proposal site.

How does USFS plan to protect both the water quality and quantity in both Sweetwater Lake and Sweetwater Creek? The increased traffic on Sweetwater Road will result in increased maintenance and increased chemical runoff into the creek. This must be studied, planned for, and mitigated.

Finally, how does USFS plan to avoid adversely impacting Sweetwater Lake's mammals, amphibians, fish, plants, and and the surrounding habitats upon which wildlife depends for nesting, foraging and cover including wetland and uplands ecosystems. These must obviously be studied, planned for, and mitigated prior to any development of the site.

In my opinion, the NOI was premature as it did not take into account the ramifications of this development. Fortunately, NEPA was enacted to help save the public from poor plans like this one.