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First name: Janet

Last name: Testwuide

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To all concerned, my husband Paul Testwuide and myself, Janet Testwuide, have a combined 110 years residing in Eagle County and 24 years respectively in Sweetwater. We bought in 2000 as a way of replacing the peace, quiet and relative remoteness that development destroyed for us in Eagle county. Our wildlife interactions in 24 years have reduced decidedly because of continued development. New neighbors have brought new challenges to our environment. With every new person who discovers Sweetwater, our quality of life erodes. Dirt bikes, off road vehicles, drones, dogs, cars that aren't suitable for our dirt roads, people who just don't understand how to interact with rural areas are a constant problem and concern. We have extremely limited resources for emergency services. Calling 911 is literally a gong show. Garfield and Eagle counties have tried for years to devise a safe and timely system, but the reality is, you're pretty much on your own. Fire response is volunteer and impractical at best. Cell phone service is a nightmare as well as anything like responsive internet service. It is hard enough for those of us who KNOW HOW TO OPERATE with such limited services, let alone people who ABSOLUTELY don't understand THERE IS NO CELL SERVICE ! I can't tell you how many strangers arrive at our door needing assistance. It's frightening, it's DANGEROUS, and it's irresponsible to add to the intrusion on residents and to put the public in danger. Anyone who has ever driven the River Road let alone Sweetwater Road, understands the peril one faces with dark, winding, narrow lanes and numerous blind curves. Add alcohol and drugs to the impairment of people in a strange and unpredictable situation and the possibility of disaster is certain. These are just the obvious reasons Sweetwater residents reject the notion of a state park being developed. The intrinsic value of our community, the peace and tranquility, the vanishing western way of life and liberty are all at stake. The USFS has been ultimately ABSENT in the years we've lived here. NOTHING has happened on the trails for decades (until this year!) We'd truly like it to stay that way. We feel that Governor Polis was absolutely wrong as he proclaimed a State Park with not a shred of knowledge or due diligence done in the area. We were literally thrown to the wolves(ANOTHER VERY HOT TOPIC for those of us on the western slope that have to live with theses predators) This is NOT how you win friends and influence people. Please vacate the idea of a State Park until many of these issues are addressed appropriately. Thank you for your time.