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Comments: The front page of the Telluride Mountain Club pamphlet shows a woman hiking on a mountain ridge with a dog which is off leash. Sadly dogs off leash kill ptarmigan bird chicks for the fun of it. For instance the area around Ice Lakes used to have many ptarmigan birds, now with people letting their dogs run wild there are very few of the birds.

I have no problem with the Mountain Club repairing existing trails and helping the Forest Service with existing trails. But when new trails are cut into areas where wildlife had been living in an undisturbed state, wildlife suffers and often is eliminated. The trails which they hope to build intrude into undeveloped wild lands.

I have lived here in Colorado for 35 years and I have seen wild sanctuaries cut up by new trails.

Many dog owners do not realize the damage their pets are causing to the wildlife but their dogs are not innocent.