

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/21/2025 5:39:42 PM

First name: James

Last name: Whitehead

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To: USFS District Ranger, Norwood Office

Re: Proposed Sheep Mountain Traverse trail

I reject the Telluride Mountain Club's proposed Sheep Mountain Traverse trail for the following reasons.

1. There is ALREADY an existing trail, the Galloping Goose trail, that connects Lizard Head pass to Society Turn. A variety of trails branch from this main artery.

2. The proposed options would further negatively impact wildlife habitat, to include Lynx and Elk.

3. Vehicle traffic will increase on 63A, through the Trout Lake subdivision, which is currently seeing a considerable impact throughout the year.

4. With limited resources due to cuts in funding for the USFS, how will these proposed trails be monitored and by whom? The users? Volunteer groups? Concessionaires? USFS?

5. This is a totally UNNECESSARY trail proposal, in my opinion. The impacts to wildlife and residents are unacceptable.

6. As an alternative, it would be far better for the TMtC and their estimated \$45,000 cost to build a mile of trail, to look south to the San Juan forest and connect the Galloping Goose trail at Lizard Head pass with the old railroad grade heading towards Rico.

Thank you for your time to seriously consider the impacts of the proposed Sheep Mountain traverse. A trail ALREADY exists!

Regards,

Jim