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Organization:

Title:

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I took the opportunity to join one of the several Public online sessions, specifically on 20 August. Thanks for the privilege of joining that Grasslands Revision Plan session and having the opportunity to ask questions and voice a couple of concerns.

My specific interest as a hiker/backpacker is for trails, including wilderness trails. Having been born in Kansas and living in Colorado for 15 years practicing medicine as a family doctor in a small town, I had many opportunities for mostly short excursions in the outdoors.

Having hiked on both the Colorado Trail and Continental Divide Trail, as well as spending many days doing trail construction and trail maintenance, I know the importance of being in nature and 're-paying'

for that opportunity. Likewise, I often advised my patients to partake in both such endeavors. In that light, I hope all existing trails are continued, maintained and upgraded as appropriate in the Revision Plan.

While not primarily a hiking trail, at the meeting I expressed the importance of preserving the current character of the Santa Fe Trail.

Interestingly I joined a two day outing east of Walsenburg, in 1980 with the HikaNation, a cross country hiking event taking a year or slightly more of a scattered group of hikers, and we came close (although per map probably not in the Comanche Grasslands) on that hike and camp night.

However, do be advised that the Southern Branch of the now Federally recognized American Discovery Trail runs across southern Colorado along Highway 50 from Holly to Canon City.

Further, I asked about Tribal representation for the plan and was reassured that multiple local and regional tribes were involved in the planning or otherwise contacted. Thanks for that courteous and mandatory inclusion.

Please keep me informed and on the mailing list for this project.

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