

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/16/2015 10:23:46 PM

First name: L

Last name: Mossman

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to request that your organizations take a closer look at the impact of "motorized recreation" in the area at present, as well as discussing how to set and "build" boundaries for these vehicles if there is in fact an expansion in the area.

We have been enjoying winter/summer Hut trips to the Fowler Hilliard hut for the past 14 years. Because it is such a beautiful area, we also take guests from all over the world to see the historic fox holes and amazing 360 degree view from the top of Resolution Mountain. (I have also heard it referred to as McAllister Peak from a Nova tour guide) When we first started hiking to the top of this ridge with kids in back-packs, we would get to the top and unload the toddlers onto a pristine knob of mountain tundra. We enjoyed picnicking and inspection/ taking photos of all the wonderful flowers.

About 10 years ago, our attention was distracted by increased traffic on the McAllister road which runs North-South, just west of the peak. - 2 years later, we were joined on the knob by an exploring motorcycle rider off McAllister Rd. - The following year we were greeted at sunset by a young couple in a pick-up truck, parked and camping just below the ridge, to the west. - A few years later, we were greeted by 6 motorcycles and 3 ATVs on top of the knob. - The following year on the way up the ridge we turned motorcycles around who were trying to access Ptarmigan Road by way of the trails from the Fowler Hilliard Hut.

The original walking trail from McAllister Rd. has turned into a road. Two years ago, we hiked to the top of the ridge with the Fowler and Higbie families, only to be greeted by six 4 wheel drive (single passenger) vehicles from a Colorado Springs 4WD club who left their motors running while taking in the view. They showed us how the peak was listed in their guide book.

The top of Resolution Mountain has transformed from being covered with pristine alpine flora, to being a rocky dusty parking lot. It is my understanding that the top of Resolution Mountain is designated wilderness. I would like to see a physical barrier erected for people accessing Resolution Mountain from McAllister road.

My guess is that this is not the only area in your proposed project to experience over-use. If we are going to increase exposure to this area, I recommend stronger boundaries be set, so that we don't turn our forests into live video games in which the participant "wins" or advances to the next level of "exploration / destruction".