

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/2/2015 2:06:21 PM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Forest Service Plan Comments, Sandia Ranger District

As co-founder of the East Mountain Regional Trails Council (EMRTC), here are a few suggested enhancements which would improve public enjoyment in the Sandia Ranger District.

1) Create a new trail head at the end of Casa Loma Road in Cedar Crest.

With the closure of Cole Spring, there is currently no public access along the eastern flanks between Canyon Estates and Cienega.

2) Continuing the same thought on lack of public access on the east flanks, work cooperatively with Bernalillo County Open Space to construct a connecting trail from the existing Ojito trail head up to the Faulty trail.

3) Carlito Springs(Bernalillo County Open Space) is currently going through a planning effort to enhance their site. Both agencies should cooperatively work to connect Carlito Springs to Canyon Estates to Ojito to Casa Loma(if developed). This would make an excellent low-mountain mountain bike trail with access from multiple trail heads and the neighborhoods. It would require declassification of an easement strip of wilderness to accept mountain bikes.

4) Expanding the previous point, looking at the big picture, how about working towards a mountain bike "beltway" circumnavigating the Sandias? The western flanks are already heavily used. If the beltway ever came to fruition, it could be ridden in a long day. In fact, a summer ride event, like the snow shoe race, could be done as a fundraiser by FOSM.

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30 Stagecoach Trail

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