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Comments:

Bear creek

To Debra Kill

I moved into Durango in 1970 and started hiking and fishing Bear Creek on the North side of the La Plata in 1973. It was one of the first places I took my now wife before we were married. We took the Gold Run trail before there was a bridge and waded the icy creek in flood and low water to get to solitude and wonderful camping and fishing. Over the years we have seen steadily increasing use, and unfortunately motorcycle use in this former refuge from town life. The smoke and noise and trail damage during our last back pack trip was appalling. We went in to celebrate our 39th wedding anniversary and I was to surprise her with our first ever wedding rings. The groups of motorcycles were annoying and we saw no wildlife and little sign in areas we used to see Elk herds, Bears and Deer almost nightly. The sound and smell of motorcycles was with us starting at 0800 and continuing till almost dark. The high point came when we found evidence of spraying for thistle, at least an effort is being made to control noxious weeds. We have thousands of miles of roads and trails including the Aspen Loop sacrifice area a place I can no longer hunt, even during bow season. Can't we have a single easy access area to get away from motor noise and stink? The Rico West Dolores plan should be used to rectify this obvious oversight and return this area to those of us that go there to be there. There are huge areas for the motor set. Thanks for the consideration Max Macpherson