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Comments:

Having hiked and skied in the San Juan Mountains for 25 years I want to strongly recommend Alternative E and that the following trails be designated Quiet Use/Non-Motorized Use: Bear Creek, Northern Calico, Grindstone, Johnny Bull, Rough Canyon, East Fall and West Fall Creek, East Fork, and Burnett Creek. For purely selfish human reasons I make this recommendation because it will prevent the incredibly unpleasant experience I have had of having the peace and quiet and beautiful smells of the forest completely ruined by the noise and stink of dirt bikes, 4 wheelers and snow mobiles, not to mention safety issues of a motorized vehicle coming up on you as you are walking a skinny trail or a snow mobile triggering avalanches... For bigger-picture reasons, this is essential to protect those who do not have the ability to speak for themselves--the 4-footed, the winged, the insects, etc. Numerous studies have shown that the intrusion of motorized vehicles into wildlife habitat has many detrimental effects on those that live there. Along with making those trails non-motorized it is also essential to limit the times that motorized trails can be used to not disrupt elk and deer birthing times and the hunting season in the fall. Please protect our wilderness for all that live and thrive there. Lastly, going to the big picture--we all need to do all we can to limit the use of fossil fuels and the carbon they release that is contributing to climate change--you all have an excellent opportunity to make a difference in this area by sending a strong, clear message to the public that WALKING IS SO MUCH BETTER than riding a machine that burns gas and emits toxic exhaust!!! Think of the public health campaign you could launch--personal and global health improvement all in one!!