

Date submitted (UTC): 7/15/2016 1:48:06 PM

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Comments:

I would like to see all trails that are currently in use as open to Motorcycles in the Rico West Delores Area stay open to all users. There is plenty of land for everyone to share in the area, as well as a huge amount of Wilderness Area. I feel that Dunton Hot Springs has atelier motives behind the proposed closures. Also, this trail system is an economic driver for the Rico area, as it is a destination visit for a vast majority of people, both motorized and non motorized users. Motorized use single track does not have as much of a negative impact as many people are saying it does. Many of the trails in the area are maintained by riders, and the impacts of these riders, in my opinion, is less than that of horses or cattle. Many of the FS trails, upon being repaired, will use motorcycles to "ride in the trails" to buff and smooth them out before opening to public use, regardless of motorized use or not. Also, many dirt bikers in the area have been helpful to lost hikers, or relaying information to people in dire situations in the far reaches of the area. I have been involved in 2 rescues in the Rico Area Trail systems that required the use of a helicopter to extract other users. Without the use of a dirt bike, these users would not have received the help that needed in a timely manner.

As far as trail "braiding" or damage to wet areas, this in my opinion comes from lack of education for a certain set of riders, as well as poor trail layout in some locations. By moving pieces of trail to "high and dry" locations, these wet areas can be avoided and any and all of the scrutinized damage can be avoided. A much better solution than just abandoning trails.

Motorized single track, or any trail regardless of use, does not come free. The costs of OHV stickers, Registration, as well as many fees and donations to groups like "ride with respect" and "papa" have help to build, maintain, and restore many trails in the area. Where is the money coming from to build, maintain, and restore non motorized use trails in the area. I'm not entirely sure, but I would imagine that this comes from a FS yearly budget that has no input, other than taxes, from end users.

Lastly, if one were to have a big picture look at trails in the entire San Juan Area, you would see that many of the Motorized Single Track use trails are in far better shape than even hiking only trails. I can think of many spots on the Sneffels High Line trail as well as the Navaho Lake trail that are in far worse shape. Regardless of damage, these trails remain open for users. I strongly feel that the lawyer hired by Dunton Hot Springs is spinning the information that he is spreading in a bias way. Again an anterior motive by Dunton in my opinion.