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Comments:

Fwd: Motorized trails

>

> I take issue with any and all increase in designating trails as motorized. I know there have been many changes in the Dolores/Rico area, but not for the better. We do not need motorized trails use. I am a horse rider, llama packer and hiker with 40 years in this forest. I can no longer use almost all trails outside of wilderness with livestock, and those trails are poor quality and limited. I have used the Calico trail many, many times beginning with a backpack trip in 1978 and as recently as horse riding in 2012. Who ever decided to allow motorized travel on that trail never used it or is misguided. It is not only geologically unsuitable, it very dangerous for other to meet motorcycles on many portions of that trail.

> A couple years ago we were walking on a 'multi use' trail when around a bend in a deep valley came 5 motorcycle riders going fast. We had no where to move. One skidded and stopped right in front of us, the second hit him from behind and they went tumbling down. The others stopped with difficulty. Then a couple became very angry with us that we didn't jump off the steep trail, and that we had no business being there. Another time I was riding my horse on a small forest dirt road when a motorcycle came screaming around a bend. He panicked, fell, and the cycle flew into me and my horse. Fortunately I had a great horse and we were galloping so she jumped it, but it was a very, very close call.

> I used to ride the trails above the East Mancos River, but do to frequent encounters I am now afraid. I have also been on the trail just north of Rico and had a close encounter on a horse with motorcycles. I have also had to quit using many trails because of extensive bicycles. Last year I llama hiked the Colorado trail from Molas Pass to Corral Draw. All the trail from Hermosa meadows to Hermosa Park is one deep rut from bike use. It's really hard to hike and therefore there are braided paths everywhere. We had bikers squeal and skid off the trail on that trip to keep from rear-ending us coming off Blackhawk. Motorcycles can't begin to stop

> Motorcycles should never be allowed on single track trails. Never. Bicycles need to be more restricted and aware that downhills are not fre-for-alls. Most Citizens and taxpayers hike trails. What about our rights? I feel like I am discriminated against for not being fast and noisy. Motorcycles belong on roads or old roads. They do not mix with my enjoyment of the USFS land.

> I would be glad to offer opinions anytime. I owned a trail building business for 20 years that operated on the San Juan NF and I have been about everywhere on a horse.

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> Sent from my I Pad