

Date submitted (UTC-11): 8/9/2017 2:49:36 AM

First name: Cindy

Last name: Houston

Organization:

Title:

Official Representative/Member Indicator:

Address1:

Address2:

City:

State:

Province/Region:

Zip/Postal Code:

Country:

Email: spiritsong@hotmail.com

Phone:

Comments:

Rico West Dolores Roads and Trails Project

Originally from West Virginia and an avid outdoor enthusiast for years, I moved to Colorado to escape the small, over crowded nature portals that were few and far between. Most land is privately owned so the only way to get out into nature was through publicly provided spaces like parks, nature walks and trails which become well used and abused by others who do not have the same sense of care for the environment, leaving trash and impacting the local habitat.

Getting into nature provides me with the ability to recharge, reconnect and obtain some peace of mind in this fast-paced society that we now live in. It breaks my heart to get out somewhere where I feel connected with my surroundings, observing the works of God in all the beauty around me to come across a place where motorized vehicles or OHV's have trampled down and cut pathways through areas that are not designated for motorized use. Meaning that, they go off trail and damage the surrounding land that is vital for wildlife in the vicinity.

I do not own an ATV however, I do enjoy the abilities that they offer in getting out further on the trail than I could if I walked or bringing in large game that is taken down while hunting. All while taking less gas than a full size truck.

But the problem seems to be that the users tend to not stick to the designated roads/trails and the noise and pollution is impeding on the natural progress of wildlife in these areas. Grease, oil and other excrement that motorized vehicles emit also leaves an impact, damaging waterways, habitats and eco-environments that are vital to the critters living in these areas. Humans or pack animals on foot do not.

I ask that you please take into consideration Alternative E with some modifications and protect the upper Dolores river watershed as a quiet and wild scenic area.

Cindy Houston  
20671 Road W  
Lewis, CO 81327