

DUST2

May 26, 2021

Scott Wall
County Administrator
Archuleta County, Colorado

Dear Scott,

As requested, here is a brief description of the changes that have taken place as concerns the Jackson Mountain Trail project that have impacted funding priorities.

When Dust2 requested \$35,000 from the Conservation Trust Fund the intent was to use the funding to pay the salary of Forest Service Specialists to analyze proposed trail miles at Jackson Mountain through the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Forest Service has recently changed their budgeting process to where these Specialists are fully funded for the Jackson Mountain analysis. The Forest Service and DUST2 currently do not have the time or expertise to conceptually design a "Destination Trail System". This conceptual design/proposal is a crucial component of the NEPA process and will be the foundation of the Proposed Action. DUST2 requested quotes from trail design contractors to create this conceptual design. A quote from the International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) is heavily favored by DUST2 and the Forest Service, due to IMBA's experience with the NEPA process. DUST2 would like to use the awarded \$35,000 Conservation Trust Fund money (and other sourced funds) to contract with IMBA to complete a conceptual design for the Forest Service. The timeframe of the project has been fast tracked and IMBA has guaranteed they can meet the needs of the Forest Service. In addition to the new timeframe, the Jackson Mountain Project has also been selected to be a Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration project, which provides of the top funding from Congress for implementation once NEPA has been completed.

Thank you for your consideration,


Annie Sewell