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**File Code:** 1950; 2350  
**Date:** December 9, 2019

Dear Interested Party:

The Arapaho National Forest, Clear Creek Ranger District, is seeking comments on a project to reroute the Warren Gulch trail. Originally part of the Chief Mountain trail, the Warren Gulch trail was constructed sometime prior to 1938. As constructed, the trail crossed 18 mining claims, many of which have since been developed as residential properties and are under 12 different owners. Increasing recreational use of the trail and significant changes in the type of recreational use of the trail have resulted in increasing user/landowner conflicts. To address the need to minimize these conflicts without closing the trail, the Forest proposes to decommission the lower 1.7 miles of the trail and construct a 1.4 mile reroute beginning just above the private land, avoiding all private parcels, and ending on NFSR 760.1 approximately .1 mile above the current end of the trail. The trail will be designed to Forest Service mountain bike standards, with a 12"-24" width, but will be also be open to other non-motorized recreational use.

The preliminary assessment of this project is that it falls within the following category of actions listed in the Forest Service National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Handbook, FSH 1909.15, Chapter 30, Category 32.2.1: [Construction and reconstruction of trails. 36 CFR 220.6(e)(1)]. Projects within this category are excluded from documentation in an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Our evaluation of anticipated environmental effects indicate there are no extraordinary circumstances [FSH 1909.15-30.3 (2)] that would require preparation of an EA or EIS.

A scoping period provides those parties interested in or affected by this action an opportunity to make their concerns known and raise any substantive issues for the environmental analysis. If you have information you feel the Forest Service may not be aware of, or you feel you have issues regarding potential effects of the proposed action, please send those issues electronically, including any necessary attachments, to [ralph.bradt@usda.gov](mailto:ralph.bradt@usda.gov) with the subject, "Warren Gulch Trail Reroute". Alternatively, comments may be filed via mail, express delivery, or messenger to: Scott Haas, District Ranger, USDA Forest Service, Clear Creek Ranger District, PO Box 3307, Idaho Springs, CO 80452 or faxed to: (303) 567-3021. Comments should be received by January 8, 2020 to be most helpful in the analysis.



If you have questions about the proposed project, or would like more information, please contact Ralph Bradt, at 303-567-3017 or [ralph.bradt@usda.gov](mailto:ralph.bradt@usda.gov). Thank you for taking the time to read this information and for your continued interest in the management of National Forest System lands.

Sincerely,



**SCOTT E. HAAS**  
District Ranger

Enclosure

cc: Kathryn Heard, Scott Haas, Ralph Bradt