

In the Middle of  
Inspiration &  
Recreation Heaven



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Hello Blue River Trustees,

3/1/2024

My name is Bob White, I have lived in Fairplay for 23 years and have watched our area become the "Gravel Capital" of the front range. Many times the community has risen to speak against new operations, but our county leadership does not listen. We need your help. That is if you are concerned about an increasing frequency of large trucks traveling over the pass and on to Eagle, Clear Creek, Grand and Summit County locations.

When Denver's "Brannon Sand & Gravel" purchased the dredge piles south of Fairplay, we met with their executives. I asked "How you can afford to send a truck to Fairplay and back to Denver for gravel.....is it because there are not raw materials in the front range or is it legislative?" Their quick answer was "Legislative". We know that in your county there has been pressure against the aggregate industry too. Bottom line, we have become Summit County's and the Front Range's Lackey...and your Hwy 9 is increasingly becoming a route to transport these materials. Expect trucks with all sorts of aggregate including large boulders, and possibly soon Asphalt and Concrete.

The Fairplay community has recently opposed a Summit County based operator who wishes to put an Asphalt and Concrete operation here. That struggle is still occurring.

They are estimating from this operation that 75% of their production will be headed your way. To understand how much gravel is currently being moved, we asked Brannon. They stated that a 28 ton truck ("Coleman" truck) will leave their facility every 3-5 minutes, 6 days a week for 40 years! If Brannon or other new companies decide to take aggregate north, your traffic will increase again.

Not only are we both dealing with the dust, the broken windshields, the noise, the road congestion and damage, but we know for sure that there is mercury in the gravel. It was used in the gold extraction process and much of it remained in the dredge piles. Although we are not aware of a study that might show the danger of moving gravel from point A to point B, it is a potential risk.

Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to help us oppose new operations in the western side of Park County. Are there Federal, Military, Environmental or County & State entities that might be concerned? Seems to us that Summit County's aggregate operations should exist where some of them have been for years....north in Silverthorn?

Very much appreciate your time and consideration.

Bob & Sheree White  
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