



TOWN OF RICO
INCORPORATED OCTOBER 11, 1879
2 North Commercial Street
Post Office Box 9
Rico, Colorado 81332
Office # 970.967.2861
<https://townofrico.colorado.gov/>

March 22nd, 2021

USFS Mancos/Dolores Ranger District
29211 Highway 184
Dolores Colorado, 81323
Attention Derek Padilla
Via Email

Dear Mr. Padilla,

The Rico Board of Trustees disapproves of any sale of public land to private entities within the Rico planning area, which includes lands in the East Fork of the Dolores River within three miles of the Town boundary. The Town would like to be notified of receipt of small (and large) tract transfer applications within our planning area when received by the USFS.

The Board understands the need to keep the public away from reclamation activities, however much of the hillside portion of the proposed small tract sale is not needed for reclamation work. The Board is also concerned about future transfers of portions of the small tract property to third party speculators and developers.

Accordingly, the Board would like to see the portion of the small tract that does not include the reclamation work area and associated safety buffer surveyed and a permanent easement be deeded to the town for open space and access corridors that will preserve access to public lands and open space for recreational uses, and expressly allowing trail improvements. Please see the attached map that illustrates the historic access corridors that the Town would like to preserve delineated in yellow.

Sincerely,

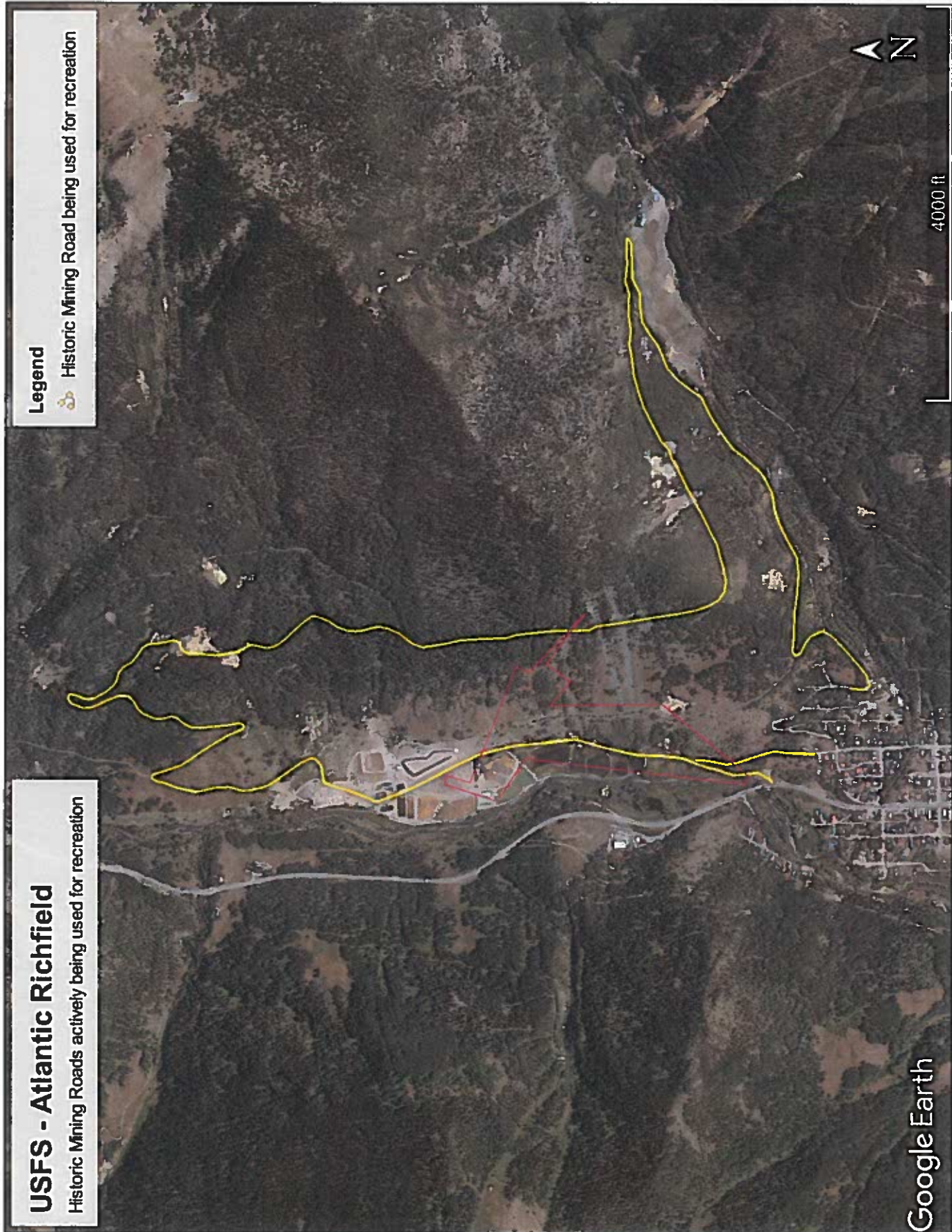

Barbara Betts, Rico Mayor

USFS - Atlantic Richfield

Historic Mining Roads actively being used for recreation

Legend

 Historic Mining Road being used for recreation



Google Earth

4000 ft