

**BETTY SHAHAN, SHAHAN RANCH**  
**Chama Peak Land Alliance Board Member**  
**CHROMO, COLORADO**

\*\*\*

The Village on Wolf Creek is so very HEART BREAKING and DISGUSTING to me. I was born and raised in Archuleta County Country, which includes Wolf Creek. It's my HOME. I have raised my children here. My grandchildren and Great Grand Children are being raised here. IT'S OUR HOME! It's the home of so many, many animals of this pristine area. When those animals are seen by those of us who are fortunate enough to see them we get such a deep down joy and inner reward from that special privilege. People living here love it, people visiting the area love it. But yet what we think and how we feel has been ignored by the Federal Government who is in charge. JUST BECAUSE THEY CAN IGNORE US.

WHY?? Colorado is beautiful!! Where are you going to find another Colorado when it gets all cut up and sold to people who are addicted to a big Bank Account? I know and respect that property owners have a right to sell what they have to whom ever wants to buy it. But the National Forest belongs to all of us. And all of us who live and love Wolf Creek and the open area for the wildlife disapproved of this beautiful area being cut up and built on. Why more houses, people, and problems out in the most beautiful America? Why do you want to destroy this beauty and habitat that God has created when there is no need for anymore second homes? There are lots of those home sitting vacant needing to be purchased and used to utilize the land and open space that was destroyed when they were built. In my mind it's nothing but greed and "because they can". I no longer have the same respect for the Forest Service that I was taught to respect and honor. I have been taught and visualized the Forest Service as the protector of our precious possession. Now the Forest Service has ignored our wishes and pleading to protect this precious possession that can never be replaced. Just think of all the land the wildlife has lost to the ridiculous waist of their territory. Now they are being forced into the territory of their enemy. Being killed and removed to another area because they are forced out. For the benefit of the wealthy who just happen to have the means of purchasing what they want for a THEIR FIX when they need to get out of the city. Now they are bring that life into the area they should also be helping to preserve for the future!!

I am a rancher and I have had a Forest Permit and grazed the Government land with my cattle. I have loved it, respected it and cared for it as the property of all us Americans and most and foremost the home of the wild life that lives in it. I have seen in the National Forest where the disturbance of the land has brought out weeds, landslides, and down timber. Some of the grazing land that was used by the rancher for grazing their sheep and cattle has been designated Wilderness to "save it's beauty for the people". Now look what the Government has done with some of the outer "beauty for the people". Just because they can. Wolf Creek in Wilderness if there is Wilderness. What goes here with the Forest Service? They did not have to do this.

There is no need for this land to be developed. It is like it is because that's the way it needs to be for the good of the land, people and wild life. If the owner wants to sell the land I believe out of respect for the land, people and wildlife the U.S. Government should have bought the land and preserved it for the future generations. This option was never even presented to the public. WHY? Once it is torn up and developed it will never go back to the benefits it is serving now.