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Interactive comment on “Trail impact monitoring in Rocky Mountain National Park, USA” by J. Svajda et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

Received and published: 29 November 2015

This manuscript presents an interesting research about the impacts of trails in a protected high mountain environment (Rocky Mountain National Park, USA). The text is clear, well-structured and figures and tables are good.

I just have some specific comments on different sections:

p. 3118, line 19 – replace “creating” by “created” p. 3121, line 16, 18, 21 – avoid subjective descriptions, such as “exceptional”, “dramatic” or “severe” p. 3121, line 27 – reference is needed for that. Moreover, you should provide basic climate information, quantitative, not qualitative. p. 3122, line 4 – late summer and early fall p. 3130, line 9 – what are these factors causing soil loss? This should be better discussed along the text. Maybe geomorphic processes/lithology could be also a major agent inducing soil erosion, not only human impacts. In many mountain (protected) areas, this process in

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enhanced during the snowmelt period.

Figure 1. Does the dotted line correspond to the limit of the National Park? If so, it should be mentioned. You could also include the location of the highest peaks, so that the interested reader could easily identify the trails.

Interactive comment on Solid Earth Discuss., 7, 3117, 2015.

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