



CENTRAL IDAHO MOUNTAIN BIKE ASSOCIATION

December 27, 2021

CIMBA respectfully requests approval of the NEPA to allow the next level of detailed trail design and construction of the Payette Lake Trail - East Side #60817. High-quality trail experiences are an important factor in people's desire to visit and recreate in the West Central Idaho region and play a major role in the region's economy. People are seeking these experiences now more than ever.

The East side of the Payette Lake Trail is the result of a collaborative process between CIMBA, the Payette National Forest and Idaho Department of Lands to connect the loose ends and add to the overall vision of a singletrack loop around Big Payette Lake. This eastern portion is the second phase of the trail project and will finally allow residents and visitors to travel around the lake. Further phases will continue to refine the trail experience and build singletrack which replaces the road portions or improves the road surface.

CIMBA's initial attempt to stay within IDL endowment lands proved to be an unsustainable route, so our volunteers spent hundreds of hours in the last four years re-exploring and scouring the terrain for the best and most sustainable alignment. This process took us on to land managed by the Payette National Forest, but it works best in the field. We were careful to find the smallest creek crossings, avoid wet areas, game habitat, minimize the length through glacial moraines, and still incorporate several unique granite monoliths with views of Payette Lake. This new route reduces the amount of trail construction and utilizes the existing Crestline trailhead parking infrastructure as well as part of the existing Blackwell Lake Trail. Both items were specifically requested by neighbors to reduce any impacts.

CIMBA has accomplished a wide variety of successful trail maintenance and construction projects on the Payette National Forest over many years and is experienced with this type of trail construction.

This trail will help meet the growing need for recreational opportunities accessible from McCall and will be built and maintained as a non-motorized trail that will be open to all non-motorized users. The Crestline Trail network is nearby and open to motorized users so this will not negatively impact motorized recreation in the area.

The trail construction will be funded through a variety of sources including grants and donations, but will also be a great opportunity to get involved with local volunteer organizations in

public-private partnerships. Additionally, partnerships are essential to the on-the-ground work completed by the Forest Service

Thank you for your consideration of this application. If you have any questions about CIMBA's support for this application, please contact me at wayne@cimbarides.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Wayne Ruemmele". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Wayne" being more prominent than the last name "Ruemmele".

Wayne Ruemmele
President

"Protect, Enhance and Create quality trail experiences for the mountain bike community in Central Idaho"
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