Dear Mr Turner,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed mountain bike trail system in the Lemon Gulch area of the Ochocos. Based on the various alternatives set forth in the proposal and after a thorough review of the environmental assessment of the trail network, my preferred choice is alternative 6.

My reasoning is as follows: I believe the 52 mile trail network would be the best solution for dispersing the expected number of mountain bikers that would use the trails, which in turn would also mitigate the impact on trail erosion and wildlife/cattle encounters. The proposal set forth in alternative 6 states that the trail system would be completed in stages. By proceeding in this manner, if unforeseen circumstances do arise, the trail system could revert to a smaller network if desired to make all parties satisfied.

I have worked extensively over the last several years building trails with COTA in the Sunriver trail network. Many of the issues brought forth by opponents to the Lemon Gulch project, such as overcrowding of trails, litter, disrespect for landowners, etc simply do not exist. Before the trails were even built in Sunriver, years of working with the various parties involved on elk migration, archaeological concerns, and equestrian usage were all taken into consideration. Compromises were made and solutions found to the agreement of all, it can be done!

The federal land in the Ochocos should be multi-use so that everyone can enjoy the outdoors that central Oregon is known for. This will benefit not only families in the area but the businesses nearby will also thrive from the increase in tourism. The mountain bike community is one of the most respectful and hard working groups I have ever been involved with. This will be a success for all for many years to come.

Regard,

Michael Roginski

COTA member, SODECO chapter