

Gail Staniford



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OCHOCO NATIONAL FOREST

12/06/2022

USFS
Mr. Shane Jeffries
Prineville, OR

Dear Sir,

I am writing this letter to object to the Lemon Gulch Trail project #58831: Mountain Bike Trail Complex/Park. I am requesting the **NO Action alternative!**

Please I would like a personal response from from Mr. Turner & Mr. Jeffries!

Some of my concerns:

This proposal must be addressed thru an EIS! There is too many negative impacts to be covered by a Environmental Analysis!

Complex would fragment the forest!

Opportunity for wildfire, since the USFS is not prepared to enforce riding & offsite camping rules!

Treaded trails on steep, mostly 70% or greater, which after 1-1-2023 logging won't even be allowed, will cause **Compaction & Erosion** that will never be repairable!

Will interfere with birthing & rearing of the elk & deer. It's designated critical habitat & is locked/closed for 6 months out of the year! There would be no elk or deer left in the drainage!

There will be no Economic benefit!

It was my understanding that the USFS could only have 3 miles of trails or roads in a section. There is 5 sections in this area & project. Total 15 miles allowed. There is already more then that in the Lemon Creek area!

COTA has already flagged the area they want & told the USFS this is the area they have to have. It was my understanding private people CANNOT pick & choose where & what they want! If that were the case then my husband should be able to go pick out his own timber sales! There may be some legal issues here.

USFS said in their EA that 300 cars a day go up Mill Creek, so the roads can handle the increase in traffic. Not sure where they got their figure, but there is no way that many cars go up here everyday. I live up here & I can attest to that. They need to check with the county on the figures!

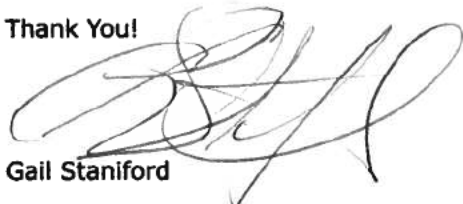
I am concerned about the noxious weeds that will be introduced like Tansy Ragweed & other weeds, which could be brought in on the car & bike tires! You're not even suppose to bring hay into Central Oregon for that very reason! We already have an outbreak of noxious weeds in Central Oregon!

How will USFS mitigate my concerns?

I have many other concerns!

Please consider the No Action alternative.

Thank You!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Gail Staniford', written in a cursive style.

Gail Staniford