

Kasie Staniford

12/15/2022

USFS
Mr. Shane Jeffries
Prineville, OR

RECEIVED

DEC 16 2022

USDA FOREST SERVICE
OCHOCO NATIONAL FOREST

To Whom It May Concern,

The Lemon Gulch Trail Project #58831: Mountain Bike Trail Complex/Park is a really bad idea! I vote for the **"NO ACTION"** alternative!

Please, I would like a **Personal Response** of my concerns from Mr. Turner & Mr. Jeffries!

* The **COMPACTION & EROSION** caused by the offsite camping, biking on steep, talus trails & the construction of the trails isn't sustainable & will cause irreparable damage to the drainage!

* It's critical elk & deer habitat.

* The increased usage will increase the probability of wildfire, since Crook County has been in a drought situation for many, many years!

* No economic benefit.

* Will fragment the Forest.

* Complex will reduce the resilience of the Forest.

* As of Jan. 1, 2023 there will be no logging on sloped ground of 70% & greater. Why would the USFS be allowed to build a Mountain Bike Trail/Complex when most of this terrain is 70% slope or better? They were allowed to log it over 40 years ago, but only by Helicopter.

* The project should have a Environmental Impact Statement done because of so many negative impacts on the watershed & human environment.

* The construction of the trails will damage the vegetation & land with the heavy equipment they use. The tree roots & soil will be disturbed which will cause a decrease in the resistance to bugs & fungi!

* Mountain bike riders interactions with cattle & equestrian are disruptive & dangerous.

How does the USFS plan to mitigate my concerns?

Thank you!

Kasie Staniford
