



SALMON IDAHO MOUNTAIN BIKE ASSOCIATION

Salmon, Idaho
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<https://salmonidahomtb.org>

September 23, 2025

Chris Waverek, District Ranger
Challis-Yankee Fork Ranger District

Dear Chris,

Thank you for providing an opportunity to comment on the proposed Challis Backyard Trails Project. This project would create a network of 34 miles of non-motorized singletrack trail in the Big Hill, Mill Creek, Bayhorse Lakes, and Daugherty Gulch areas west of Challis, Idaho. This proposed trail network would provide numerous loop options for non-motorized trail users and would be easily accessed by passenger vehicle from the nearby community of Challis.

Salmon Idaho Mountain Bike Association (SIMBA) represents the mountain biking community of Salmon, Idaho and Lemhi County, with a diverse membership with interests in trail stewardship, multi-use trail systems, and community involvement. Part of SIMBA's mission includes advocating for the development of sustainable mountain bike trails throughout the county, collaboration with land management agencies and other non-profit organizations, and providing volunteer opportunities for community members.

SIMBA fully supports this trail proposal. Trail proposals such as this are very important to rural communities in order to enhance recreational opportunities for a variety of user types and meet the increased demand for well thought out, sustainable, and modern trail networks that are easily accessed by residents as well as visitors. This proposed trail network would provide countless benefits, including promotion of healthy lifestyles in the community as well as opportunities for connecting with nature, outdoor education, and youth involvement in outdoor activities. This project, along with the existing Challis Foothills Trail network, would certainly promote Challis as a great destination for mountain biking and provide economic benefits to the community.

SIMBA fully supports the Challis Backyard Trails Project proposal and encourages the Forest Service to proceed with implementation of this project.

Sincerely,

The Salmon Idaho Mountain Bike Association (SIMBA) Board of Directors:

Bill MacFarlane

Marc Landblom

Brandon Heaton

Taylor Hill

Courtney Frost

Salmon Idaho Mountain Bike Association