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Organization:

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Comments: Please see attached word doc

Amy Dillon, Forest Plan Revision Team
Colville National Forest, Colville Supervisor's Office
765 South Main. Colville, Washington 99114

Dear Colville National Forest,

As a mountain biker, I'm asking your to support mountain biking trails and access in the new forest plan
The riding experience in the Colville National Forest is one that cannot be replaced elsewhere.

Although I've ridden in many states, the diversity of Washington's riding is unmatched. Colville's unique geography, location, and forests, along with the potential for multi day rides makes it unique. Mountain biking gets folks out, has a low impact when the trails are well designed, built and constructed, and provides a sustainable economic engine for local businesses.

Alternative P is a good solution for both motorized and non-motorized recreational access, ecological integrity, and regional economic resiliency. However, two highly valued mountain bike trail systems would be lost due to proposed wilderness designations in Alternative P. For this reason, I strongly encourage you to implement the following two changes to the plan:

*The proposed Bald/Snow/White wilderness designation eliminates a contiguous Kettles Crest riding experience, as well as connection to Thirteen Mile Trail. Bald/Snow/White should be included in the SIA. This unifies all of the Kettle Crest under one management designation and preserves the unique north-south Crest riding experience, as well as un-interrupted access to the Pacific Northwest Trail. This can be accomplished by changing the Coyote Mountain/Hoodoo roadless area to backcountry or wilderness.

*The Abercrombie Mountain and Silver Creek trails should be removed from recommended wilderness, and instead designated as backcountry, or another SIA. The Abercrombie and Silver Creek loop should be preserved for mountain bikers as this high alpine riding experience cannot be replicated elsewhere in WA.

With the above changes, I recommend and support Alternative P. It allows trails to be maintained with chainsaws, gives the Kettle Crest one uniform management designation, and makes it much easier to attract riders to this unique attraction and experience.

Thanks for all you do for the forest, and for this chance to comment.

Sincerely,

Steve Hindman
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