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Organization:

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Comments:

Amy Dillon, Forest Plan Revision Team  
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Dear Amy and the Forest Management Plan Revision team,

I would like to take this opportunity to comment on the Forest Management Plan Revision. Since I am a mountain biker, this plan is important to me.

I truly love the mountain biking in the Colville National Forest it is very unique and should be left open for future riding.

The area offers some of the best riding opportunities in Washington State. Due to its expansiveness and varied terrain it has the potential to become a destination riding place which would bring economic benefits to the area while maintain the natural beauty.

The alternate P plan that you have proposed offers the best for both motorized and non-motorized uses while maintaining environmental and economic balance. However, I do believe the following changes would make the plan even better.

1.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.

2.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.

I fully endorse Alternative P with the above changes. It facilitates trail maintenance needs with chainsaws, allows the Kettle Crest to be designated as one uniform management designation, in turn making it easier to promote and market it as a MUST VISIT contiguous geological, ecological, and recreational destination!

Thank you for the excellent planning and allowing me to comment.

Sincerely,

Edward Kalmbach