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First name: Andrew

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Potential Wilderness designation

I found out today that there is a potential Wilderness designation for Samaniego Ridge and East Catalina. Although the deadline was April 30 for submission, I respectfully ask that you include my opinion with the rest of the concerned citizens since I was notified today.

Four times per year I visit Tucson, and I would be extremely disappointed if the above action occurred. I mountain bike (have been doing so for over 10 years including racing) in Southern California where I live, and always look forward to riding out in Tucson. Tucson is one of the destinations that I go to specifically to mountain bike and it offers beautiful land, great trail riding, challenging terrain, gorgeous views, and some of the best winter riding in the country. As bike-centric as Tucson is, I feel that this is limiting one of the largest user groups of the Catalina area and potentially hurting tourism dollars coming in from outside the city.

I would much rather see Tucson limit the amount of housing developments that I see every time I come to visit Tucson. Taking away the enjoyment of the land by its citizens is not right...for any user group.

Thank you,

-Andrew Markham

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