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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Proposed Wilderness

To: Erin Boyle, Assistant Forest Planner

I would like to comment on several of the potential wilderness areas outlined by the draft forest plan. First, many of them have a glaring omission in the "current use" section. Mountain biking is not mentioned as a current use in any of the documents. Yet, in some of the areas I would argue that mountain biking is a primary use -- even higher usage than hiking on some trails (specifically in the East Catalina PWA and the Samaniego Ridge PWA).

I have personally enjoyed numerous mountain bike rides in the following PWAs:

- Dragoon Potential Wilderness Area
- East Catalina Potential Wilderness Area
- Mt. Wrightson Addition Potential Wilderness Area
- North Chiricahua Potential Wilderness Area
- Samaniego Ridge Potential Wilderness Area
- Tumacacori Potential Wilderness Area

I know of many other mountain bikers who enjoy riding in these areas, as well.

This summer, I will be spending many a weekends in the Lemmon area this summer on my bike. As a local trail builder, this are the same trails that I have maintained. Should you take some time to come hike this area, I am sure you will find many a mountain bikers camping, riding, and hiking in this area. I love to camp on Bigelow, just beyond the towers.

I urge you to re-evaluate your look into these areas in the fact each is used by many mountain bikers.

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