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Organization:

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Comments: I'd like to express my support for continued mountain biking access to the forest. I'd especially like to make sure we avoid breaking up the opportunity for longer multi-day mountain bike through this amazing area.

I consider myself an environmentalist and I think parks work best where access to the natural environment is allowed (human and equestrian-powered, with some machinery for trail maintenance) but carefully managed. I've taken a number of multi-day MTB trips, and I think it's one of the best ways to experience nature, have fun, and have minimal impact.

I'm a member of the Evergreen MTB alliance and trust their detailed assessment of the necessary changes to make sure Colville remains a great MTB destination. The central parts are:

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.

Thanks for the work on this detailed and extensive plan.