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First name: Brandon

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Amy and the Forest Management Plan Revision team,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Forest Management Plan Revision. As a mountain biker, this plan is of high importance to me as it will determine mountain bike access for the next 15 years or more.

I have never ridden my bike at Colville but its on my list of places to visit and the thought of loosing the opportunity to possibly ride my mountain bike at Colville is disheartening and I urge you to consider Evergreen's feedback and guidance. I know mountain bikers can get a bad image especially when the media portrays us a mud slinging, dirt shredding, going fast idiots on wheels but I promise you we are not all like that and I'm not proud of mountain bike companies that portray that image. In the end we really are nature lovers and most us are also hikers and general conservationists at heart.

The extensive trail networks in the Colville National Forest offer the key ingredients required for multi-day mountain bike riding experiences. In ways similar to backpacking this opportunity would allow mountain bikers to have the same great experience backpackers have on multi-day trips. A chance to disconnect from society and reconnect with nature and one another.

I had the chance to visit Cumberland, BC on a mountain biking trip and saw an entire small town that was catered to mountain bike visitors. Their was bike parking outside all of the stores, bike washes available around town, a local mountain bike guide service was founded and we saw a community thriving on the energy mountain bikers brought to this small town. This type of organic, low impact, sustainable growth is hard to argue against.

Thank you again for your hard work and opportunity to voice my strong support for maintained mountain bike access to the awe-inspiring trails of the Colville National Forest. Again, I urge you to take into consideration the feedback from our team at Evergreen.

Kind regards,

Brandon Sisino