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Title:

Comments: Thank you for the alternative P. It represents the best management solution of timber, hiking, mountain biking, motorized, and equestrian uses I have to date. I do request that Alternative P be modified to accommodate mountain biking in the Abercrombie and Edd's Mountain/Barnaby Buttes areas. Specifically, please consider boundary adjustments in the Edd's Mountain/Barnaby Buttes and Abercrombie areas so that mountain biking can continue to occur in those areas

Mountain bike use in the recommended wilderness areas that include Abercrombie Mountain, and are found south of the Snow Peak shelter, do not degrade the wilderness character of those areas, nor does the degrade the trail class of those trails on which the activity occurs. The nonconforming use existed prior to these areas being designated as recommended wilderness. Mountain bikers have been riding these areas BECAUSE of their wilderness character and their trail classes. They have had no impact on the wilderness character of the areas as evidence by their designation as recommended wilderness areas. The trail class in these areas vary from minimally developed to developed. The mountain bikers that travel to this area value those trail classes and seek them in these area. They travel from as far away Calgary, AB-Canada and Boise, Idaho. The Abercrombie area provides a rare recreation opportunity, riding to the top of the mountain. The Edd's Mountain/Barnaby Buttes area provides a rare opportunity to experience a minimally to moderately developed trail on a bike while exploring ridge lines and complete the Kettle Crest or exploring Edd's Mountain. These are recreation opportunities which are slowly being lost nationwide.

To address the use of mountain biking in the Edd's Mountain/Barnaby Buttes, please change the designation of the area to Special Interest Area. This designation aligns with use south of Hwy 20 in the Snow Peak area. To address mountain bike use within the Abercrombie area, please exclude trail 117 and the portion of trail 119 from Abercrombie Peak to the Silver Creek Trailhead from that area's RWA by including them in a special interest area.