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First name: Sergei

Last name: Shevlyagin

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Ms. Dillon and Forest Plan Revision Team,

I'd like to comment on the Forest Management Plan Revision. I first discovered mountain biking 8 years ago when I move to Washington State. It has become my primary hobby and the way I enjoy the outdoors. I haven't yet made it out to the trail networks near Colville but it's on my riding bucket list. I think outdoor recreation, like mountain biking, creates an economic benefit for the area and I hope that I have a chance to bike on the legendary Colville trails and spend a long weekend in the area.

I've been the Alpine Lakes wilderness area and I understand the benefit of that designation. I largely agree with alternative P, but I hope a few changes can be made so we don't lose great Mountain Biking. Specifically:

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.

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.

Thank you for listening and I hope you can incorporate these changes into the proposed plan. Allowing mountain biking will increase the value of that area to the community and make more people appreciate a place worth preserving.

Best,

Sergei Shevlyagin

Seattle, WA 98122