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Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Colville National Forest Plan Revision

Amy Dillon, Forest Plan Revision Team

Colville National Forest, Colville Supervisor's Office

765 South Main. Colville, Washington 99114

Dear Amy and the Forest Management Plan Revision team,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Forest Management Plan Revision. Alternative P is a good option for motorized and non-motorized (mountain bikers like myself), however two important and valued trail systems would be lost if this alternative is chosen. I would like to recommend two modifications to Alternative P.

Please include the Bald/Snow/White in the plan as SIA instead of wilderness to keep the Kettles Crest trail open to users. The Abercrombie Mountain and Silver Creek trails should also be designated as backcountry, or another SIA. To stay within the SIA limit, the recommended SIA stretching east-west from Jungle hill to Hoodoo/Coyote Mountain could be changed to Wilderness or Backcountry.

These areas should be preserved for mountain bikers as this high alpine riding experience cannot be found elsewhere in WA. Riding areas like these provide mountain bikers access to some of the best multi-day riding in Washington and also bring economic benefits to the communities nearby. All around the country small towns are experiencing increased economic income by maintaining access or creating additional access to unique riding destinations.

With the above recommendations incorporated, I would support Alternative P. It facilitates trail maintenance needs with chainsaws (very important to trail crews), allows the Kettle Crest to be designated as one uniform management designation, in turn making it easier to promote and market it as a MUST VISIT contiguous geological, ecological, and recreational destination!

Thank you again for your hard work and opportunity to voice my strong support for maintained mountain bike access to the Colville National Forest.

Sincerely,

Jeff Jaap