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Title:

Comments: Comment on the Colville National Forest Plan Revision

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Date: July 4, 2016

Dear Forest Service:

The Kettle Crest trail system in the Colville National Forest is a long way from where I live near Seattle, but for a mountain biker these trails are worth the trip for the unique mountain biking experience that they provide. This trail system is an asset to the forest and to the local community. Like most mountain bikers I care deeply about our forests and understand the need for protection, however I think that in this case there is a balance to be struck and it's not necessary to lose the Kettle Crest trails due to a blanket wilderness designation.

I am aligned with the majority of the mountain bike community in that I would support Alternative P with a few changes:

- I would ask that the recommended wilderness area south of Sherman Pass that would impact a portion of the Kettle Crest trail be designated as a Special Interest Area (SIA).

- I would ask that the Bald/Snow/White recommended wilderness designation be changed to be included in the SIA. This unifies all of the Kettle Crest trail under one management concept and preserves the unique north-south Crest riding experience.

- I would like to see the Abercrombie Mt and Silver Creek trails also designated as a SIA. These trails make up one of the few high alpine trail opportunities for mountain bikers in WA state.

With the above changes, I would fully support Alternative P. Thanks for your hard work in putting this plan together and I look forward to riding in the forest for many years in the future.

Regards,

Brian Crowley