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First name: Charles Last name: Safken Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern,

As a native to Montrose county, I am greatly concerned about the planned closure of some of my very cherished riding areas. I love running/mountain biking but also love motor sports. I spent my youth doing all of the above all over this great county. I am personally hurt by the proposed favoring of one specific activity over another. These kind of closures only increase the divide between motorized users and non-motorized users. It seems to me that if any damage is done to a trail, or if littering/vandalism or other abuse occurs that the blame always lands on motorized users. I have witnessed the opposite occur. I believe strongly that we should find ways to embrace our similarities and encourage safe sharing of the space. Motorized users actually pay to use the land. We improve it. We maintain common use trails. We gather friends and family to build this community. I would rather see stricter noise control for off-road vehicles. And some education for all users of the land. To be truly fair to all users I think with the right education all users can share the land safely. I have found rock mounds stacked in trails. I have had rocks/sticks thrown at me. I have seen holes dig into trails. Designated motorized use trails. Just because a motorcycle is loud when it passes doesn't mean the person on it has any less right to use the land safely and freely. I hope you take this comment seriously. Please let me know how I can further help. I hold a B.S. in Environmental Science if that carries any weight as to the source of this message.