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Comments: Let me state my opposition to the very enlarged planned presence of mountain bike trails and "backcountry" ski areas. Economic benefits? Hardly. Will they increase wages? Our personal wealth? They will benefit some (our local bike store, perhaps -those with second homes belonging to airB&B nation?) Our greater good? Most of the responders/boosters of these activities, are not local residents. A plus and a minus, depending on how you look at it.

I have been a "backcountry" skier since I moved here(30+/- yrs.) (backcountry exists the moment you step off trail/road). I am not a downhill skier, aka "backcountry" skier , stiffer knees these days. I noticed with amusement looking at the map and legend that the LT, South from Brandon Gap, is shown as "new" cross country skiing...news if you've been skiing it for years.

To depict mountain bike trails as trails for the general population is misleading... bikers would assume "right of way" and you (gp) would be expected to get out of the way, not so easy. It is possible that a well built trail system in the areas proposed will attract ATV and Dirtbike(motorized) use...very active users in some of those areas! There seems to be no provision for parking in mountain bike trailhead areas. The Forest assumes no vehicular use associated? Or does the forest intend to wait & see where the vehicles pile up and then(without planning>scoping) make parking appear?

The impetus for more backcountry skiing and mountain biking largely come from the same source.....as the Forest chases money from another entitled user group.