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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Motorcycle singletrack trails in Ohio's Wayne National Forest

Greetings,

I am writing in regards to the consideration of motorcycle only single track trail possibly being included within Wayne National Forest in Southern Ohio. I feel this is a great idea. One only needs to look at the tourism that our neighbor to the north, Michigan, gains by having a trail system that is specifically for motorcycle use only. I currently buy trail permits for three motorcycles to use these trails in Michigan due to the more technical singletrack trail that is available within their trail systems. Many others from Ohio and elsewhere, also flock to Michigan to spend their recreational dollars. This is something Ohio and the National Park System could capitalize on. If motorcyclists are granted use of this land, I can all but guarantee it will encourage business growth in a economically depressed area. People will come and people will need services and lodging. It could be a great success story of the national parks working with the AMA, and state organizations in developing a sustainable single track trail network that boosts local economies while providing a legal outlet for people to ride their off road motorcycles. This can be done with little to no financial investment by the forest service as there are likely many volunteers who would show up to build and maintain trails. I am an avid mountain biker as well and I see this being done in many areas, in many different state, county and local parks. The users will take a sense of ownership and it would likely become a hands off venture for the forest service.

I realize to a lot of folks not within the off-road community that it appears that we have a large trail system already within Wayne but to the motorcycling community at large, these trails have been widened so much to accommodate the larger ATVs and UTVs that they have become not much more than a road to most motorcyclists who are looking for a more challenging and technical experience. This can be related similarly to mountain bikers having hundreds of miles of rails to trails paths but also desiring a true off road experience as well.

I hope my email will at least help you to consider this venture and I look forward to visiting Wayne National in the future for some singletrack trail riding!

Respectfully,

Jeremy Pelaston