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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Single-Track Motorcycle trails

Rachel,

I hope this message finds you well! I am writing as an advocate for the return of single-track motorcycle trails to Wayne National Forest. As a young kid, I spent nearly every weekend from March-November riding motorcycles in Wayne National, in terms of motorcycle riding it's where my heart has always been. My Dad, Jake, was one of the main trail bosses for the Hocking Valley Motorcycle Club in Logan, Ohio, where he was probably the most significant party in helping Mike Grebek (US Forest Service) in laying out the original trail corridors that WNF has today. Those trail corridors closely follow single-track trail that we pioneered and used extensively for several years with no issues and with very little or no degradation to the land.

As the trail corridors came into existence and we were barred from legally riding single-track trail I had several close calls with oncoming traffic on the wide trail, enough to say it was time to stop riding in Wayne National due to safety concerns. The wide-track trails promote speed and the local geography doesn't lend well to seeing far enough ahead at times for safety. That led to me giving up motorcycles altogether for the past 20&#43; years but now I'm hitting middle age and would like to pick it back up again and encourage my soon to be 13-year-old son to join me to spend time together as did me and my dad before me. If there were an ample amount of single-track trail I would do just that. On single-track trail, you're going slower and if another party happens to be coming in the opposite direction it's very easy to see and get out of each other's way.

At one point in the mid-80's there was around 300 miles of individual single-track trail in WNF in the Nelsonville, Logan, New Straitsville, Buchtel area. At 13-14 years old I took one of my dad's work friends on a one-day 200-mile trail ride and was never on the same trail twice, those trails are still there, going unused. Now with the upswing in UTV's and ATV's, good, safe single track is needed now more than ever.

Please give thought to it and I wish you and all at WNF the best going forward!

Hope you and yours have a good and safe Holiday season!

Thanks,

Kirk Douglass, S.R.S., S.R.E.S., R.E.N.E.