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First name: Luke

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello,

I am writing to comment on the Custer Gallatin Forest Plan Revision. I would like to make sure that the Lionhead area should be managed as Backcountry Area (BCA) as described in Alternative E is best. As a backcountry mountain biker this area is the location of some of my best memories. From clearing trail with other mountain bikers and horseman to riding trail through wildflowers under stunning peaks. I even proposed to my current wife on Targhee Pass! It is rare that while recreating in this area that I even see anybody else, but in the rare case I do the friendly understanding that we are both recreating in a sustainable and low impact method is palpable and I've enjoyed lunch in meadows with hikers, mountain bikers, and horseman. I have also worked alongside these groups to help clear deadfall and maintain trail. If this area is closed to bikes, I would choose to allocate my volunteer hours to trails I am allowed to ride and fear the Lionhead may fall into a state of disrepair.

Additionally, I would like recommended Wilderness areas to continue to be managed to allow mountain biking. I ride in and help maintain a number of recommended Wilderness areas around the state (in the Gallatin and Bitterroot mostly.) Not only do these areas offer a unique experience for mountain bikers but the work we do along horseman to maintain and clear them every year builds trust and respect among user groups and keep the trails open for all users.

Thanks for your time