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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing in order to voice my support for Alternative E which would maintain bike access.

Although I live in Virginia, I frequently travel to the western US for outdoor recreation, including mountain biking. It has long been a dream of mine to take several months (and much more after I retire) to travel the West seeking out long distance, backcountry mountain bike trails. Montana always tops the list of having the type of trails I look forward to riding, not to mention the amazing scenery. Having long been a hiker and backpacker, I've enjoyed exploring remote areas. However, as I approach 60 years old, I've transitioned more to mountain biking; it's gentler on my knees and it allows me to travel further distances than I'd be capable of otherwise. Setting aside areas is a wonderful idea and necessary, but please work to keep them open to mountain bikers, where appropriate. I look forward to seeing much more of Montana in the future and riding some of the trails I heard of and dreamed about.