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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Our family moved to Bozeman from Durango, CO three years ago. We made the move primarily because they voted to allow bicycles and motorized razors, motorcycles, etc. into the Weminuche Wilderness, the largest wilderness area in Colorado, and on county roads.

Many mining towns like Silverton, CO now allow the buzzing machines into town because it "brings in tourism dollars."

The noise, traffic, devastation to trails(and off trails), and wildlife habitat, was sad and heart breaking.

It was no longer a place of refuge for nature seekers. It became an amusement park at the expense of Mother Nature. A go-cart track for those wanting an adrenaline rush. Allowing this devastation was not the intent of the Wilderness Act over half a century ago.

Even the International Mountain Bicycling Assoc. did not support the Colorado bill to allow bicycles in the wilderness areas.

Being on a trail is a sacred time to be spent alone or with those you love. Our natural places are shrinking, when we should be adding land to meet our growing population. As a student of the American West and writer for the Murphey Western Institute, I appreciate and applaud those who came before us and fought to protect all of these places we all enjoy today.

Had it been up to profits-comes-first politicians, we would have railroad tracks running through the Lamar Valley. We should all applaud the political figures who stood up for all Americans-past, present, and future. Names like Theodore and Franklin Delano Roosevelt, George Bird Grinnell, Margaret Murie and Jon Tester.

We have raised our son to love and appreciate our wild places.

He is an Ecology major at CU-Boulder and will soon apply to the University of Montana to study Environmental Law. This new generation must pick up the torch and fight for the raw, untamed beauty we have left in this country...from sea to glorious shining sea.

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE!! I beg of you. DO NOT allow the noise, devastation and danger of mountain bicycles or motorized vehicles into the wilderness spaces that grace this beautiful state we now call home.