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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello,

I write today to express my support for the preferred alternative in the Draft EA for the Buckskin Saddle Integrated Restoration Project. I have previously provided comments during the scoping period for this project. I am very in favor of the active management of public forests and have seen the need for the resource management activities prescribed in this alternative first hand.

I have specific interests in the singletrack motorized trails in the project area. These trails provide great experiences, but as stated in the documents were not designed to account for motorized use or proper drainage. I have also seen the increase in traffic in this area after trail #14 was closed on the Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District and agree that this increased traffic has increased the need to update the trails.

I look forward to seeing these trails brought up to appropriate standards so that the trails continue to provide an excellent recreation experience, but have a new focus on resource protection. My only concern is that the trails maintain their difficulty level. The trails in this area are very challenging and fun to ride. It is important to myself and many other enthusiasts that the new trails continue to provide opportunities for challenge. While I understand that the trails will look different, I believe that the amount of rock, tree roots, and other natural challenge features in the area will allow the trail designer to provide new challenge in the area.

I do support the reconstruction of the switchbacks on the trails in the project area as they were not designed for motorized use and have seen significant impact. Climbing turns and switchbacks will make the turns rideable for more riders and will reduce resource impacts.

I thank you for the opportunity to comment.