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First name: Ian Last name: Burke Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom It May Concern,

Georgia is known throughout the United States to have some of the most splendid mountain biking trails available. This is largely due, in part, to the Jake and Bull Mountain Trails. Conversion of these trails solely to equestrian use are not in the best interest of neither the constituency nor the users of the trail systems. While it is understandable that some horses may be frightened by a mountain biker, this does not necessitate the closure of passage to mountain bikers. Further, as to the degree to which mountain bikers may contribute to the degradation of trails (ie erosion), let it be known that the hooves of horses, to which iron horseshoes are attached, contribute to soil degradation in excess of that which the tires on a mountain bike do. I am certain that the community of mountain bikers, which are generally amicable and courteous, would be sadder by any closure of these trails. It is in the interest of the majority of the constituency (excepting the occasional equestrian rider) to keep these trails accessible to the public. I am happy to further discuss this situation further via email or phone at your convenience.. Respectfully Yours,