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First name: Tim

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello,

I just wanted to take a minute to share with you my family's love for mountain biking. We moved to Montana 20 years ago and treasure our access to the backcountry, especially on a bike. I ride with a group of mountain bikers that rides once during the work week as well as weekend mountain bike trips throughout the state at least several times a month. Some of my fondest memories of Heart Lake and Montana revolve around mountain biking and the friends we ride with. While on our rides we stop and clear trails as we go and schedule days for trail clearing and performing trail maintenance to improve the trails for our ride and all others we share our trails with. Myself and our cycling community cherish the opportunity to work with the Forest Service to maintain and improve our current trails and look forward to developing new trails that are welcoming to all user groups in the future. Our weekends spent mountain biking are so special due to the ability of a bicycle to provide a quiet, human powered, low impact (far less impact than we have observed from motorized or horse users on various trails) way to explore the backcountry in our backyard and Montana. Places, that due to distance and time, we would never be able to get to on foot in just a weekend. Please allow pre-existing or current recreational uses in recommended wilderness, including biking: on the states line trail. Please redraw the boundaries on the Nez Perce- Clearwater/ Great Burn Recommended Wilderness consistent with multiple use principles to allow continued bicycle use of the heart lake area. We rarely encounter other user groups on most of our rides and when we do we are more than happy to pull over and chat with others that have also taken the time to explore the beauty of the place we call home. I whole hearted support protecting roadless areas from future development and I would like to see the wilderness character of these areas maintained. Please don't shut us out of our traditional riding areas and allow the local communities to reap the benefits of the much needed mountain biking/ tourism income. Thanks so much for your time in reading this letter and all that you do to make Montana, our home, the last best place.

Cheers