Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/30/2020 8:56:47 PM First name: Steve Last name: Hart Organization: Title:

Comments: I would like to voice my support for the Honey Badger project and the stated purpose of improving forest health and the goals associated with it.

I would also give a more reserved support for the changes being proposed for the Canfield Trail System. As one of the 623 current members and an officer in the Panhandle Trail Riders Association (PANTRA), I understand that Canfield has become a high conflict multi-use trail system and compromises need to be made. I understand the reasoning for changing some single-track into double-track and replacing the lost single-track with new single-track. What I don't agree with is losing intermediate and advanced single-track and replacing it with beginner single-track (old road grades). In my opinion, lost intermediate single-track should be replaced with intermediate single-track.

I'm a little less supportive (but not opposed) of the 8.2 miles of non-motorized proposed trails. The Canfield Trail System was started in 1993 with ORV funds and later added to with timber sales and tax monies. PANTRA has for decades cleared those trails every year and have maintained the best we could with no budget and volunteer labor. More recently, Mt. bikers have started to contribute to trail maintenance. It's greatly appreciated but volunteer labor is not enough to keep up with this high use trail system. There needs to be a funding mechanism to address the trail maintenance issues. That being said, why is one group (MTB community) that has/is not financially contributing nothing to a trail system that was built with ORV dollars getting non-motorized trails within the system? Also, who's going to be clearing those trails each year? PANTRA happily volunteer more than 1200 hours each year clearing trails (including Canfield) and if those trails are non-motorized, who's going to be clearing them? I don't see too many people carrying saws on Mt. bikes, so is it safe to assume it would be done with tax dollars or grants from the ORV funds? In our region, if trails don't get cleared annually, they disappear. An example of that is trail #14A off of Chilco. When you made #14 and #14A non-motorized, #14A did not get maintained and was not usable for hiking after only one year and is still currently unusable by anybody. Take advantage of your free trail clearing labor and make all those new Canfield trails multi-use. The only positive I can see to making them non-motorized is to take some pressure off of the other trails. That's why I'm not completely opposed to this part of the proposal.

Finally, on the other geographical end of the Honey Badger project, the Hell's Canyon trail needs to be made into a loop by adding an additional trail(s). Currently Hell's Canyon is the only trail that connects from Hayden Creek to the Windy Ridge/Horse-Haven/Hudlow area. To take pressure off this trail, a new trail(s) should be added making a loop(s). Also, improving and expanding riding opportunities in the Hayden Creek/Hell's Canyon area will help take some of the pressure off Canfield making it a win win for all trail users.