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First name: Jess

Last name: Daddio

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern:

I am writing to express my full, unconditional support for the Tillman Trails Connectivity Project. The George Washington National Forest is an incredible resource for mountain biking, but many of its trails are scattered throughout the forest and currently do not connect. This project will greatly help with connectivity and keep riders from having to share Tillman Road with motorists.

It is important to continue the relocations of "legacy" trails and/or new trail construction along the Tillman Road Corridor. Mountain biking is a major economic driver and contributes millions in tax revenue to the local and state economies. But in order to keep people coming back, we have to provide a quality mountain bike experience. The Narrowback Mountain trail system is a crucial component to that experience, offering beginner and intermediate riders a taste of the national forest. Due to the rugged backcountry nature of the national forest's trails, without Narrowback and its approachable terrain, our mountain bike experience would be excluded to a select few skilled riders.

We need more trails that are built sustainably and allow for greater inclusivity and accessibility. Mountain biking should be a sport that feels empowering, not intimidating. Our mountains can certainly be intimidating, but with the right trail construction, we can introduce new people to the sport and to the national forest.

Mountain biking is more than just a hobby. It's a vehicle for self-discovery, for gaining an appreciation for our natural resources, and for stimulating and diversifying economies. We need more trails because they make better humans, and by making better humans, trails make stronger economies and healthier communities.

Please continue to move forward with trail construction in the national forest.