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Organization:

Title:

Comments: First, I want to thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Mill Creek project. I understand that forest thinning and vegetation management is very important for forest health and returning to some kind of a traditional fire resilient landscape.

I have also been following the progress of the Lemon Gulch mountain bike trail system (located within the Mill Creek project boundaries) with great interest. As a Crook County resident and an avid mountain biker, I would love to have a destination trail system so close to home. In other parts of the state and around the country these types of systems not only tend to be good for the local economy but also drive out undesirable behaviors such as irresponsible shooting and trash dumping. My hope is that the Mill Creek project does not negatively affect this potential asset.

I would love to see as much of the scenic element of the Lemon Gulch area remain intact, permanent roads kept to a minimum and temporary roads decommed as soon as reasonable. Much of the joy of mountain biking, at least for me is the connection to nature and being surrounded by beautiful landscapes. Intact legacy trees and scenic views are a big part of that.

As I said, I understand the importance of the work that must be done, I just ask that care be taken to preserve or even enhance the visual appeal of Lemon Gulch and the surrounding area.