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First name: Martha

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello,

Boggy Draw is one of the most unique cycling trail systems I've had the pleasure to enjoy. I've ridden mountain bikes for at least 30 years. I've ridden in Flagstaff, Prescott, the greater Tucson area, Sedona, Telluride, Durango, even Laramie, Wyoming and in Pennsylvania and Michigan. I have never seen anything remotely similar to Boggy Draw.

I've gladly introduced many a grandchild, friend, brother, cousins, nieces, nephews, all shapes and sizes to Boggy Draw to share in its delights. Never a bad experience. I've also met 17 extraordinary fellow women riders from right here in our community through an informal riding club at Boggy Draw. Who knows how many of their loved ones they've shared this beautiful system with like I have? The ripple effect is just beginning, for our grandchildren will have their feet in the pedals after we are done.

While I understand the need for thinning and healthy forest management, to learn of a probably life-long and often irreparable damage coming Boggy Draw's way is such a blow. There are so many approaches one can make to help preserve the trails created, using the GREAT suggestions offered by SWCCA, AND accomplish a healthy forest. It shouldn't have to be one or the other.

Not only has the Boggy Draw trail system been something special just for me, it has been a BOON for our year-long COVID restrictions, the perfect answer to be able continue to socialize and it encouraged a huge uptick in outdoor activity. That in turn helps with health, both mental and physical, obviously.

Our local businesses have already suffered terribly due to COVID restrictions but are very much looking ahead with great positive outlook that we're rounding a corner. Now, we're finding that an important element to success for their businesses will now be minimized by careless logging right on the heels of COVID! Surely we want to do everything we can to keep bikers in our area. The suggestions made by SWCCA are attainable and show that we'd all like to work together.

I firmly believe we can attain both, a thinned forest and accommodate a vivacious biking community that provides much needed trickle down dollars to our local businesses.

Sincerely,

Martha Teal