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Comments: Rapid River Travel Management #36507

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposal. I am an avid hiker and I enjoy hiking in the Rapid River area. I am also a motorcycle enthusiast. However, I don't believe those two activities are compatible in the same area. The noise, dust and erosion caused by motorcycles is not what hikers want to encounter when hiking in remote mountainous areas. Dirt bikes can be a lot of fun for riders and spectators in areas designated for off-road vehicle use. But when motorcycles are on the trails with hikers the dust and noise ruins the experience hikers are there for - peace and quiet in a beautiful natural setting. The dirt bikes don't even need to be on the trail with you to have this negative affect. In canyons like the Rapid River drainage the sound of a motorcycle can be heard for miles.

There are many areas on public and private land where motorcycles are allowed and welcomed. There are fewer and fewer areas where people can go to relax and recover from the stresses of life in quiet, undisturbed places like Rapid River.

Please keep this spectacular area under the same trail use designations as they are currently: horse and foot traffic only. Select the Non-motorized Use Alternative.

Note: Eight hardened fords (creek crossings) in the Motorized Use Alternative seems like a terrible idea. Motorcycles and clean mountain streams definitely do not go together.