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Comments: I am writing to request that you re-route the Pacific Northwest Scenic Trail from the northern route currently considered to the southern one.

The northern route will seriously impact grizzly habitat, and there are currently only 3 females with cubs in the whole valley. People coming from all over to do the trail will not very likely be grizzly-aware, and this could result in harm to both bears and humans.

The southern route would be better because when more than 20 parties are on the northern route, there could be unintended road closures.

The northern route is limited for water, and more difficult for search and rescue. The southern trail has more water and better cell phone coverage.

The southern route would generate economic benefits for the towns of Libby and Troy.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sharon Sutherland