

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/21/2022 8:47:52 PM

First name: Pat

Last name: Mullen

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Slate Turner and Ochoco National Forest personnel,

I am writing in support of the proposed mountain bike trails in the Ochoco National Forest. With the growing number of residents of Deschutes and Crook Counties, there is an urgent need for more outdoor recreation space. New trails near Prineville will help the local economy of Prineville as it has in Oakridge. With enough trails to make the Ochoco's a true mountain bike destination, riders will have the option of staying overnight, eating at restaurants and supporting the local businesses.

With only Lookout Mountain and Round Mountain trails available for longer rides, the current riding area is very limited. It is also very unnerving to be biking on a trail in the fall with hunters in full camouflage walking on the same trails with guns. It would be great to have more area for both hunters and bikers to disperse.

I support approving and building as many trails as possible without compromising the plant and animal life in the area. Prineville residents will be happy after the fact when the local businesses generate more income and prove the benefit of the trails.