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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Slater Turner and the Ochoco National Forest,

I am writing in support of the Lemon Gulch trail network in the Ochoco National Forest. As an avid outdoors-person I am very excited to see a proposal like this in Central Oregon.

I travel to central Oregon multiple times a year and would love to have more options in the area instead of being focused on Bend. I believe this trail network has a high likelihood of reducing user conflict on other trails in the Ochocos. Currently, there is very few miles of trails for mountain bikers in the Ochocos. We should be including the greatest Alternative 2 provides the highest volume and range of trail experiences, and therefore will have the most impact in drawing mountain bikers away from other trails. I understand that compromise is required when accounting for other factors such as ecological and resource impacts; of the other alternatives presented, alternative 6 offers a reasonable range of trail styles and mitigates a large amount of concerns raised with alternative 2.

Mountain bike impact on the environment is the same or less than hiking and much less than equestrian use.

Mountain bike tourism has been shown time and again to be a valuable addition to local economies. Studies have shown that in Oregon alone, mountain biking cuts \$26 million annually in health care costs. In Oakridge, Oregon mountain bikers spend \$2.3-\$4.9 million every year.

?Thank you for your consideration.