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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Forrest Service,

I would first like to thank you for everything you do. I am incredibly grateful to have access to the open spaces that the forrest services stewards for the public.

I would also like to voice my support for the Lemon Gulch Alternative 2 option. I am an avid hiker, mountain biker and skier and receive a tremendous amount of joy from participating in these activities as well as being out in nature. Over the past five years the number of people looking to enjoy similar activities has exploded. I am very happy that so many other people are now enjoying the same natural resources I have enjoyed for years but our natural spaces are getting loved to death. The solution to this is multifactorial including education for those new to wild spaces, permitting systems to ensure sensitive areas are not overwhelmed, expansion of our national parks, forrest and wilderness system and the construction of new public access points in existing public lands.

The Lemon Gultch project is an excellent example of an opportunity to increase public access to a small part of a National Forrest while maintaining the vast majority of the land as a wild space. It will increase the quality fo life for Central Oregon residents, create economic opportunity for the city of Prineville and support the continued appreciation and protection of our public lands.

There are always tradeoffs when developing our public lands, even when the development is minimal which I believe the Lemon Gulch project to be. However, the benefit to the public is tremendous and the publics desire for the access to these publics lands is clear and increasing. We need a sustainable plan to continue to grow access to public lands and I believe the Lemon Gulch proposal to be such a plan. I hope that you consider moving it forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,

Bill