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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of the "non-motorized", Lemon Gulch, multi-use trail network located near Prineville, OR.

Specifically Alt Plan 2, as this plan incorporates the most amount of trail options for different user groups and maximizes the designated areas full potential while minimizing longterm environmental impacts and adding a positive economic benefit for the surrounding community

It is exciting to see action plans of this nature being formulated in Oregon.

I am originally from the western slope of Colorado and have watched multi-use trail networks like this evolve over 25 years as the sport of mountain biking grew and progressed in the state.

From my perspective it is crucial that community education and proactive trail development take place to protect the environment and meet growing user demands. There is more demand then ever for multi-use trail networks to have multiple loops, shuttle assisted downhill, long distance single track, climb trails and adaptive trails all in the same area. So that more people of differing skill levels and can enjoy nature equally.

Trail use by all user groups has increased significantly in the past ten years with restrictions having been implemented in some areas of the state recently to better manage the growing impact.

The Lemon Gulch Trail Project has a unique opportunity to expand recreation opportunities for various user groups in the state and those visiting by committing to Alt 2, as it has the most amount of trail options for different user groups and maximizes the areas full potential.

There are only a few examples of truly excellent multi-use but mountain bike intended trail networks in Oregon let alone the country. Places like Oakridge, OR and Fruita, CO have proven that a small town can have a huge and lasting economic benefit by providing the trail network and services this user group demands.

I believe that Alt 2 is the most appropriate plan as it allows for a diversified trail experience to support user demand while taking into account the environment.

The environmental study proved that there is no know endangered species in the area or that herding or migrating animals will only temporally be disturbed no matter which Alt plan is set forth.

The Ochoco National Forest has stated it desires to provide up-to 450 miles of trial networks of which there are currently only 150 miles. Therefore there is no reason not to proceed with the Alt 2 plan as it will offer the best multi-use solution for the area and minimize the environmental impact and provide a positive benefit for the near by community.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts and beliefs on the Lemon Gulch Trails Project.

Respectfully,

Jake Kasper

