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Comments: Please consider this a comment in support of the Lemon Gulch Project, in particular, option 2.

While the Forest Service may prefer a smaller scoping at this point (option 6) it would seem that revisiting this in 20 years time to amend back to option 2 would be an incredible waste of government, and therefore, taxpayer dollars.

The EA is well written, well thought out, and addresses literally every possible scenario, and as such, it need not be re approached down the line.

I have been involved in outdoor recreation my entire life. This is not some mammoth ski slop project, nor is it some industrialized/motorized project that will result in sprawl.

A number of people have commented on the impacts on wildlife habitat, and I beg to differ. Many times I have been on established trails, merely sitting, and been run off by bear, Elk, Deer, any manner of wildlife. Trail systems in no way inhibit habitat, they enhance it. They give clear vision to both predator and prey, and while they may seem to "not be there" when humans are on a trail, I can assure you that is not the case. Because you cannot see them does not mean they are not there, on the contrary, they may be sizing you up for lunch...

The mountain bike community is probably one of the finest stewards of public lands I have encountered. Since it is primarily a "day use" activity, there is little fear of packing in and discarding rubbish, camping, drinking, all of the things that CAN be done with motorized and equestrian trails, and IS done with regularity.

I think we, as a society, should encourage physical activity and outdoor recreation whenever possible. As we lose more and more generations to video games and social media, mountain biking provides a safe, controlled, and fun environment for people of all ages.

Again, I am in favor of option 6, the almost 53 mile build. The Forest Service can certainly take corrective/prohibitive actions in a decade or two if all the bad behavior predicted in some of these comments takes place. But closer to the truth is that if this behavior were going to happen, it would have been seen already, and it has not.

Thank you for your attention.

Rod Powell