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First name: Timothy Last name: Mixon Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Slater Turner and the Ochoco National Forest,

As President of Hood River Area Trail Stewards, I am writing in strong support of the Lemon Gulch trail network in the Ochoco National Forest. This project is exactly what the Oregon recreational community needs. It is being proposed by well-organized and motivated groups. It will greatly benefit Crook County residents and visitors from near and far. Hood River County has seen these benefits with our trail system.

Increased use in the Ochocos is a completely predictable future. Trail conflict and crowding will be a certainty in the near term if additional trail opportunities are not implemented soon. The work of Ochoco Trails represents years of dedicated planning and collaboration that has led to a proposal that can solve these issues. Mountain bike users are a fast-growing segment of users in the Ochocos; by creating this network of trails in an already heavily-used area close to town, we can maintain the wild and rugged nature of more remote areas in the Ochocos.

Please let this project happen.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tim Mixon HRATS President