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First name: Emma

Last name: Maaranen

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I support Alternative 2 of the Lemon Gulch trail network proposal in the Ochoco National Forest. I am excited to see steep, technical, DH trails developed in a session-able style in Central Oregon as we do not have any trails of this type.

With a central location for mountain biking groups to base their riding from, a group with diverse riding abilities can recreate together. For families, locations like this are perfect for a day of recreating. With short laps a few riders can do a ride while others stay at the trailhead and picnic, then swap who is riding and who is hanging back. Lemon Gulch will make mountain biking accessible for entire families.

Central Oregon has amazing mountain bike trails, but is lacking in steep, technical offerings. The terrain at Lemon Gulch is unique for the region and is perfect for building these types of modern mountain bike trails. I foresee these trails being quite popular and concentrating mountain bikers at Lemon Gulch and away from other trails in the area that are popular with hikers and equestrians. I also believe that by offering DH trails in the region, fewer social trails will be created when there is an outlet for this new style of riding has been made.

In addition to the terrain offerings and accessibility Lemon Gulch provides, I am excited that the full trail network proposal was designed by a partnership of all the user groups in the area through Ochoco Trails. Lemon Gulch will go a long way to meet the recreation needs in the area and will be an asset to the local community as well.

Thank you for listening.

Emma Maaranen