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First name: Denise

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Slater Turner and the Ochoco National Forest,

I am writing in support of the Lemon Gulch trail system in the Ochoco National Forest.

I am a Prineville resident with two young children who love riding their bikes. There are few options for trails in Prineville or the Ochoco National Forest that accommodate new or young trail riders. When we go for a family bike ride, we typically drive to Sisters or Bend to access trails that my children can ride. As a result, I am fully supportive of Alternative 2, which would provide 8.9 miles of beginner trails to residents of Prineville.

On the topic of new and young riders: this year saw the creation of a youth mountain bike club in Prineville. The Lemon Gulch trail system could provide a home trail network and training grounds for the club and would likely support growth of the club. I am fully in support of any infrastructure that provides access to the outdoors and promotes an active lifestyle to our youth - more outdoor recreation means a healthier community. Alternative 2 provides 8.9 miles of beginner trails plus 28.6 miles of intermediate trails - perfect for young riders in our community.

I appreciate all the hard work everyone has done to get us to the point where we have an encouraging and thorough environmental assessment, a well thought out system of trails that was developed in collaboration with other trail users, and a trail system proposal that provides opportunity to a wide range of rider abilities. I personally believe that Alternative 2 is the best path forward as it provides the most diverse range of trail difficulty in basically the same trail footprint as Alternative 5.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Denise Reynolds