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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Slater Turner and the Ochoco National Forest,

I would like to voice my support for the Lemon Gulch trail proposal.

I LOVE Mountain biking and what COTA has done over the last 30 years of trails. To me, they have always acted in a very responsible manner.

Based on the Environmental Assessment, it outlines a clearly well planned and studied plan for a mountain bike trail network. What's interesting is that going back to the 1989 Forest plan, it looks like The Ochoco Forest Management Plan specifies a need for 468 miles of non-motorized trails, including mountain bike trails. Currently there are only 156.5 miles in the Ochocos, none of which have a primary purpose for mountain biking. The Lemon Gulch proposal represents the perfect opportunity for the USFS to begin filling the need for recreational opportunities in the Ochocos.

As a mountain biker, it is clear to me that the Lemon Gulch network would also perfectly meet the other objectives outlined in the EA. I'm sure traffic may be a concern, anytime something new is added though I regularly see the respect and love other mountain bikers have for the trails and roadways to get there. I

Alternative 2 offers the most miles of trails, as well as largest variety of riding, and therefore best achieves all of the goals outlined in the EA. I would strongly encourage the USFS to proceed with Alternative 2.

The benefits of mountain biking to small communities can not be overstated. Studies have shown that in Oregon alone, mountain biking cuts \$26 million annually in health care costs. Local businesses also stand to reap huge rewards from mountain bike tourism. For example, in Oakridge, Oregon, mountain bikers spend \$2.3-\$4.9 million every year.

Thank you

Mark Jamnik