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First name: Brad

Last name: Santucci

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Slater,

I'll be honest, the lack of professionalism of this project from the start truly disgusts me. The proper notifications were never adequately followed by your department. Why would you put the future of the Ochoco National Forest in the hands of any biking organization?

Our forest has designated an area appropriate for recreational activities, and in that plan it states DISPERSED recreation, there is nothing in alternative 2-6 that represents dispersed! To take over three thousand acres out of the middle of any pasture in the Ochoco National Forest is wrong. There is no way any high density trail system built on this steep terrain can be beneficial for the environment. These are just setting up the situation for extreme erosion.

Deschutes county is a prime example of what happens anytime concentrated recreation occurs. They have removed any grazing activity that was available in past years. The scars left behind will have to be felt with for decades to come. This high density type of recreation is not worth the price of destroying the natural resources.

The winter habitat for the elk and deer is critical. But it is also critical in this area for the habitat to not be totally disrupted during the summer months. You talk as if the displacement of these animals is inconsequential and that they'll return to calve and fawn as historically done. In the meantime you are pushing them down to the private landholders to feed off their resources.

There is no hard data provided in this EA for the need. Could you please provide the data for need that you based this proposal on?

Going on with any future projects, it would be in your best interest, to get the input of the public at large and all stakeholders.