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First name: Dalton

Last name: young

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter in regards to the lemon gulch trail project. As someone who is a 3rd generation prinevillian and has spent large portions of my youth and adult life in the ochoco national forest with friends and family, making memories and enjoying the nature. I urge you to put a halt to this lemon gulch project. There are enough mountain biking opportunities in central Oregon as a whole and plenty of trails and roads criss crossing the ochocos as it is.

The people that this trail system would attract aren't the kind of people we want in the ochocos, they merley pretend to care about nature without holding a true respect for it. look at Walton lake, the biggest tourist trap in the ochocos, it gets monetized and over used to the point that if it wasn't stocked each month no fish would naturally survive there. What do you expect to happen with a small high concentration area like lemon gulch? You're going to kill all the undergrowth, have a parkinglot full of trash that the wind carries away. Have people going off trail destroying more of the ecosystem and an irreparable amount of soil compaction that will never return to it's natural biome years after everyone realizes what a mistake it was and shuts it down.

Please as a lifelong user of the ochoco national forest. A place where my grandpa grew up (he actually attended Howard school) and worked (at ochoco logging camp). Where my dad grew up, where he raised me and taught me all the valuable lessons in life. And where I will raise my kids and teach them about life and nature. Please keep the ochoco national forest as pure as possible. We don't need the money, we need to defend and uphold the nature that we swore to be stewards of.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Dalton Young