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Comments: I'm writing to express my strong support of the Mountain Bike Trails at Lemon Gultch. I hope the Forest Service will approve the maximum number of trails being considered.

Recreational opportunities in our National Forests have not kept up with the trends and desired use from the Public. These trails would provide a great opportunity for those who wish to ride mountain bikes without having to share roadways with motorized vehicles or existing trails with hikers/equestrians. Due to the unique geology and climate of the Ochocos relative to other regional trail systems, these trails provide a unique riding experience in Central Oregon. Additionally, it would prevent residents of Prineville and the immediately surrounding area from having to drive further to access extensive trail systems to the West.

I find much of the opposition to this project disingenuous, citing unfounded environmental concerns. As made clear by numerous public statements, most in opposition to this project oppose mountain bike trails on cultural grounds - they perceive mountain bikers as being from a different ilk and want to exclude these users from the forest. This is not an ethical or valid justification for reducing/eliminating the scope of the Lemon Gultch project.

Thank you for your consideration of this comment.