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First name: Karl

Last name: Findling

Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a stakeholder to the vetting process for Lemon Gulch, I feel strongly about the work that the interdisciplinary committee provided, from various user-groups in locating a workable area.

Representatives from USFS, non-profit's/NGO's, ODFW, and others, found a suitable alternative to other areas.

Wildlife was a main concern, where displacement was strongly considered. as well as other listed conflicts, such as user-group conflicts.

This area is closer-in to Prineville, and has suitable terrain for this time of trail system.

Under FLPMA, NEPA processes, this has met much of the criteria set forth, under a multiple-use doctrine.

The supposed conflict with cattle is weak at best, as I personally have recreated all across the west, both as a hiker/hunter, and fisherman, along with mountain biking, and the conflicts are anecdotal at best.

Personally, I can't think of a single mountain bike-user-cattle conflict since I started mountain biking, in 1986.

The one place there was a minor conflict with mountain biking (Ca. 1990), was primarily cattle walking through a Wild and Scenic River corridor (The North Fork Malheur, River trail--BFH; Malheur N.F./ Vale Dist. BLM), and defecating in the river, and on the single-track trail, we were riding.

The Butler (Ranch) family cattle were later fenced out of the W & S corridor, for good reason.

For the last thirty-years, I've ridden many places away from the Phil's Trailhead complex, primarily in eastern Oregon, central Idaho, and most areas of the inland west with active grazing allotments, and never a conflict with cattle.

Thank you for your consideration and opportunity to participate, and write testimony to see this project get started.

Sincerely,