

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/2/2023 1:01:14 AM

First name: David

Last name: Claiborne

Organization: Idaho Recreation Council

Title: Attorney

Comments: Idaho Recreation Council is a coalition of motorized recreation groups throughout Idaho, representing thousands of recreation enthusiasts that motorcycle, OHV, snowmobile and boat on public lands and waters. Our membership is family-oriented, and our members enjoy a broad spectrum of responsible recreation on Idaho's public lands, including trail riding with motorized vehicles such as dirt bikes. IRC's club members contribute hundreds of volunteer hours every year maintaining trails and areas on National Forest, BLM, and IDL Endowment land, to the benefit of all recreational users. Improved forest health and access are very important to our members, so we appreciate the opportunity to comment on this Project.

IRC supports the proposal in the Railroad Saddle Restoration Project to designate a new ten-mile section of single-track motorized trail within the project area. This new mileage will start to help reverse the decades-long trend of loss of motorized access to trails across the region and state due to re-designation of both trails and entire areas to non-motorized restriction categories. Of note was our members' loss of motorized and mechanized access to over 25 miles of designated single-track within and adjacent to the Rapid River Wild & Scenic River corridor. Since this current proposal is for an area close to the Rapid River WSR area, the ten miles of new trail will make a significant dent in that deficit.

If the proposal for new trail mileage can be retained in the Project proposal along with the important vegetation management work contained in the Proposed Action, the Forest Service can count on our recreational community to assist with implementation and ongoing conservation of this valuable recreational access.

Thank you.