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Comments: I am a supporter of mountain bike recreational activities, however, I do have concerns about the impact of the proposed large-scale mountain-biking trail/racecourse system at Jackson Mountain on such a significant natural resource as our national forest.

The Jackson Mountain proposal for mountain biking/racing trails will have a profound impact on the landscape by constructing 40 or so miles of trails and corresponding infrastructure to accommodate a large influx of users. That kind of activity will irreparably alter the character of our forest and community. I am no wildlife expert, but I can't imagine that such disturbance to the landscape also won't negatively affect wildlife in this area and beyond. It seems more suitable to situate such high-impact activities on private land or already highly developed public lands. If Jackson Mountain is the only feasible site, then I would urge a through-trail system of about 10 miles of trail. The Jackson Mountain proposal as it stands is a huge commitment of resources to a single user-group, which I don't think is appropriate.

Another major concern is that the Pagosa Ranger District already has extreme difficulty trying to maintain and manage trails, roads, parking areas, campsites and sanitation on the national forest. We must first take care of what we already have before considering additional high-impact activities that will further strain the district's already challenged resources.

Mountain biking is a popular sport-for now-but it should not overshadow the users who seek a more natural experience that the national forest offers.

I would also mention that "multi-use" trails sound inclusive, but, in fact, can be misnomers as horse riders and cyclists can be a potentially dangerous mix, especially on trails designed for cycling speed and challenge.

In closing, the Pagosa Ranger District should tout its less-developed, less-commercialized character that is unique compared to many other national forests in Colorado and elsewhere. We should be mindful that people are attracted to Pagosa for what it is.

Thank you.