

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/22/2023 7:49:58 PM

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Comments: I would like to submit a comment in support of the trail system and vegetation management portions of the Jackson Mountain Landscape Project.

While the Pagosa area provides many miles of trails available to mountain bikers, very little of that trail is intermediate or advanced. The proposed trail system at Jackson would provide a new kind of experience for mountain bikers in the area than is currently offered, especially so close to town. A well built, sustainable, and well maintained trail system at Jackson is a prime opportunity to improve the mountain biking experience in Pagosa for many different riders.

I understand the concern that many comments have expressed about negative impacts on wildlife corridors, and I trust the Forest Service and its partners to work to create trails that minimize impacts on the wildlife in the area.

I am also fully in support of the vegetation management projects proposed at Jackson Mountain. With it's location so close to town, creating defensible spaces to help reduce the threat of destructive fires is critical in the landscape. I know the fuel reductions look harsh during the first year or two after treatment, but they end up looking beautiful, creating a healthier forest, and allowing more options during fire management.

I would also like to thank the Forest Service for the process they have led during this process. I felt the open house offered a great chance to promote conversations between groups with differing opinions and priorities.