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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I have been hiking, backpacking, and enjoying the outdoors my whole life. My son is an avid mountain biker. There are more than enough places in this state to enjoy mountain biking and chair lifts absolutely do not have a place in this type of outdoor recreation in Arkansas.

This Trails at Mena Project proposal requires a tremendous impact to the natural environment, and I object to further exploration of this project. This area is the headwaters for two major watersheds. Activities like road building, major construction (requiring heavy equipment) for these chair lifts and other projects, and the overall increase in heavy trail use and maintenance is detrimental to the watershed environment.

Mountain biking presents a heavy use of sensitive trail areas. While it brings recreation to rural areas it's overuse and over building, such as proposed in this project, are not worth the risk to other watershed recreational activities that leave the land intact and provide recreation opportunities and economic value to the community.

I request this proposal is denied. No chair lifts, no roads, no new mountain bike trails. No to the proposed "trails at Mena" project.