

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/24/2023 9:25:32 PM

First name: Alice

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I live in Central Arkansas but I lived in Mena as a child and I spent a significant amount of time in the area while I was growing up. I am an avid cyclist and I am generally in favor of more infrastructure for cyclists, but I am concerned about the significant impact to wildlife given the scope of this development. The proposed gravity trails require parking and lifts that can cause significant disruption to the natural landscape. The proposed area is largely roadless at present. I am sympathetic to the desire for bicycle tourism in the Mena area but I respectfully request that the Forest Service and partners consider a project that would have less impact to existing animal and plant life. I am also in favor of that stretch of the Ouachita Trail remaining hiker-only rather than being opened to bikes and E-bikes.