Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/25/2023 2:34:39 AM

First name: Mary Last name: Schlatterer

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Trails at Mena #63649

Dear Sir:

I am requesting all environmental studies be performed prior to any development of wilderness areas in accordance with NEPA and appropriate Forest Service analyses.

I have concerns regarding the expansion of wilderness areas, especially the areas that are home to native Black bear, birds, bats, insects, aquatic species and native plants. Over development of wilderness areas can cause destruction and extinction of wildlife.

Please consider a Dark Sky Program to assist with reduction of noise and pollution. For example, The Buffalo National River has been designated as an International Dark Sky Park. We can protect our parks, and landscape by introducing a similar program.

Please consider keeping our scenic Ouachita Trail as a "hiking only trail". We need to lessen the impact of motorized vehicles on our fragile landscape.

Thank you for your time.

Mary Schlatterer The Ozark Society