Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/18/2024 9:19:25 PM First name: Peter Last name: Waldor Organization:

Title:

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Comments: Dear Forest Service: I am all for new wilderness trails but I strenuously object to the proposed trail below Sheep Mountain and above the Galloping Goose. After the ill-considered and illegal bike trail the Mountain Club attempted to run from Hidden Lake, through National Forest and across Trout Lake land, one would have thought the Mountain Club would have honored their own directive to seek community involvement. They did not. No one from the Trout Lake neighborhood was contacted. Following are reasons not to build the trail and also an alternative solution.

- The trail would disturb a sensitive wildlife corridor, home to lynx, mountain lion, bear, coyote, fox, elk, moose and other animals.

- The Trout Lake area already has excessive public use and is lacking in infrastructure, parking, etc. to even support current activities, let alone another attraction.

- The trail would be difficult to build and maintain and greatly disturb the forest, including wetlands areas.

- There are already abundant trails in the area.

Bikers can use the existing Galloping Goose road (which could be closed to vehicle traffic). Alternatively, a single track could be built next to the galloping goose (which would require an easement from Trout Lake Land Company), which would not disturb the forest as much.

As someone living in the area, I would be happy to work with the club to find a solution, not have one imposed on us.