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First name: Sidney

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: This is our home. The end of our driveway is about 100 feet from a trail, and I feel tears welling up as I try to find the words to express my frustration and fear at the thought of motorized vehicles on these trails. The Rattlesnake is a gem unlike any other. The needs of bikers, equestrians, hikers, skiers, other recreators, and wildlife have been thoughtfully considered, and the result has been a peaceful paradise wherein the rules are clear, and we can all coexist in harmony with little conflict or incident. Motorized vehicles throw the balance of the entire system into jeopardy. They bring disturbance, chaos, and the threat of injury with their loud engines and exhaust, their quickened pace, and their size. Our quietude will be no more, both on the trails and in our home. Gone will be the days of sitting on our back porch, listening to the creek burble, watching hikers and their animals pass on the road, traveling between trails. Fish populations will suffer, when 6 miles upstream takes a fraction of the time and no effort. And the ecosystem in its entirety will pay the price. Trails will be eroded and damaged much more quickly, requiring additional funds to keep them in their current condition, or not. There are truly too many upsetting consequences to list. Our home will be forever changed, and the people who have loved these trails will be elbowed out. Please, please do not destroy the essence of this place that we and so many others love so much.