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First name: Tani

Last name: Bates

Organization: Pacific Northwest Endurance Riders

Title: Washington State Rider Representative

Comments: Greetings,

I have been riding the trails in the Ochocos (Bandit Springs Endurance Ride) for close to 30 years now. These are some of the best trails and scenery in Oregon. I highly support creating this plan for the future of this beloved area.

As an equestrian the risk of riding on trails with mountain bikes is high. Horses see mountain bikes as silent attackers and the horses first response when one comes up on them is panic, then flight. Many of my fellow equestrians have been seriously injured because of encounters with mountain bikes. Keeping these trails nonmotorized is very important also for safety. Conflict avoidance is a goal we can achieve with separate trails that are designed with speed of user considered

Thank you

Tani Bates