

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/1/2024 4:03:19 PM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello,

Thank you for taking the time to review my comments. I'm an avid recreationalist and strongly support progressive uses of access for recreation. The population of the surrounding area is only going to continue to increase and pressure on existing recreation resources is already stretched thin. While I tend to recreate in many ways, biking is my primary concern. Too many trails are being closed to biking and not enough new trails nor connections between existing areas and trails being established. The MTB community in the area provides tons of support for construction and maintenance of trails. Conflict use of trails further from the 'local zone' of the trailheads is very low in my experience so over-concentration of use due to closure and not establishing new trails further are primary concerns and should be addressed. A few items the MTB community and I are concerned with in this Proposed Action plan are:

Heart Lake Loop, near Superior

Due to permanent loss of access, we strongly oppose these trails being recommended for a Wilderness designation unless a non-motorized travel corridor is established as was recently recommended for the adjacent Stateline Trail managed by the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest.

Carlton Ridge to Mill Creek, on Lolo Peak

We support the recommendations for the Lolo Creek Geographic Area as these trails will remain open to bikes.

Cube Iron Roadless Area, near Thompson Falls

We strongly support the recommendation for a Backcountry management designation in this area which will maintain primitive characteristics while allowing for bike access.

Thanks for your continued excellent work in our great shared resource!

Fred Spataro