Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/26/2024 5:05:45 PM First name: Heather Last name: Walston Organization: Title: Comments: Against!

The bike trail system in Ouachita National Forest has faced criticism due to its environmental impact and lack of local support. Concerns have been raised about the potential damage to sensitive ecosystem (Rich Mountain Salamander in that ecosystem.) and wildlife habits caused by trail construction and use. Additionally, many residents argue that the development of these trails does not align with community interest or environmental conservation goals, leading to significant opposition from the local populace.

The city of Mena has already provided enough bike trails. No more trails are needing in the Ouachita National Forest. There are plenty of walking and hiking trails available in the National Forest.

We don't need another Wolf Pen Gap! These trails are in terrible condition. The majority of ATV riders that visit Mena are riding on county dirt roads and forest service roads because of the horrible conditions of the trails.

I am against the bike trail system.

Heather Walston Lifetime resident of Polk County and raised in the Ouachita Mountains (Rich Mountain)