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Comments: Just a short comment to voice my support for this project.

First, the obvious is the economic potential for this project. Being a smaller town that is 1.5 hours from any city, finding economic support is a hard thing for us. I feel this project has the potential to vastly improve our economic outlook and expectations. This could impact our economy with cabin / house rentals, hotel development, food and the restaurant business, as well as others.

Another opportunity to get outside and do something has to have big benefits on the health of our community as well. This project would not only encourage local participation but would bring the outdoor opportunities to us.

One last thought is that I would not think the economic cost would be as much as it could be. My understanding is that this trail will 100% be on land that is owned by the forest service and the city of Mena. With the land already being public owned, the cost savings of not having to purchase real estate should be a big factor in determining the cost effectiveness of the project.

In closing, I feel the overall impact of this project could only be beneficial to our community and our citizens.

thank you.

James P Looney