

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/17/2026 11:53:18 PM

First name: Erin

Last name: McDermott

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing in support of the proposed trail project near Challis, including the 32 miles of motorized and non- motorized, single track trails, with particular support for the non- motorized trail development in the Big Hill area and Daugherty Gulch.

For residents, these trails represent an important opportunity for accessible and structured recreation close to home. Having designated and well- designed trail systems helps people of all ages safely enjoy public lands for walking, hiking ,and riding without needing to travel long distances. The proposed loop options in the Big Hill area reachable by passenger vehicle would be especially valuable for families, youth,and older residents looking for regular outdoor activity and connection to the land.

Trail systems like this also support the local economy in a practical and proven way. Outdoor recreation brings visitors to communities like Challis, where they spend money at local businesses such as restaurants lodging, gas stations and shops. Even modest increases in visitation can make a real difference in rural economies, while well planned trails encourage repeat use and longer stays.

This proposal strikes a thoughtful balance between recreation access,community benefit, and land stewardship. I appreciate the opportunity to comment and strongly support moving this project forward.