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Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Forest Plan Revision #50185

I support continued access for mountain bikers throughout the Custer Gallatin. As a longtime advocate for the shared use of public land, a hiker, and a mountain biker, I encourage the plan revision to maintain and include mountain biking access in all of the affected areas.

Mountain bikers are a passionate and effective group of advocates that have a proven ability to care for, maintain, and improve the trails that we have access to. As a collection of outdoor advocates, mountain bikers also have the power to use our numbers for increased funding, trail access, maintenance, and protection of public lands, which has been shown in recent years.

Working together to make sure that mountain bikers have access to the beloved trails that we care for and maintain is vital to the health of these areas. Furthermore, mountain bike use on trails has been proven to not cause damage, or alter the character of trails or ecosystems any more than the uses that are currently permitted in designated Wilderness, or WSA's nationwide.

Managing our public lands to include mountain bikers whenever possible is not only the right thing to do for the community, but it will help to ensure the future health of these lands through a forward thinking shared use management plan that allows all individuals, including mountain bikers, access to our public lands.