

Date submitted (Mountain Standard Time): 5/14/2019 1:59:50 PM

First name: Diane

Last name: Verna

Organization:

Title:

Official Representative/Member Indicator:

Address1: 1110 Alta North road

Address2: 1110 Alta North road

City: Alta

State: WY

Province/Region: WY

Zip/Postal Code: 83414

Country: United States

Email: skiyurts@yahoo.com

Phone: 6147607720

Comments:

I am writing to express my concern about closing the Lionhead area to mountain bikes. I am writing to let you know that I support Alternative E, to keep the area managed as it currently is.

Lionhead is a magical area and every summer we make as many visits as possible to ride in this special zone. We seldom see any other people--mostly other mountain bikers and a few hikers that are hiking the CDT. They seem as happy to see us as we are them. Everyone shares in the joy of experiencing such a beautiful place. I've shared many a conversation with through hikers who tell us stories of their journey and they enjoy the fact that we can ride the rugged terrain. I have not encountered one person that seemed annoyed that bikes were riding in the area.

As a an avid mountain biker and someone who also supports wilderness, it's been a challenging decade. Mountain bikers are being grouped in with motorized vehicles and we do less damage to trails than horses. We are quiet, we are polite, we move through the terrain without polluting or making noise. It would be a real sad day for my family if we can no longer access that beautiful countryside on a bike. We would never be able to hike it all in one day and have to backpack and camp--basically creating more impact than simply riding a bike for the day.

I urge you to leave all the trails that are accessible to bikes open. Closing the trails will only congest bikes into smaller zones and ruin the experience for everyone. I can not express to you how much I look forward to riding in the Lionhead zone every summer. I mark the dates on the calendar for the peak flower blooms. This is a highlight of my summer. I know it is a highlight of many other people's summers as well.

Thank you very much for taking the time to consider my opinion and the opinion of other mountain bikers that so very love the opportunity to ride Lionshead. You should know we all consider it a privilege and you should know that it is pure joy and happiness to be able to ride a bike there. There are few places in the entire world that you can ride such a great trail in such an amazing location. It is very special and it is dear to my heart. I hope you will keep this in mind when you make your final decision.

Thank you.