

Date submitted (Mountain Standard Time): 6/2/2019 7:39:52 PM

First name: Richard

Last name: Griffen

Organization:

Title:

Official Representative/Member Indicator:

Address1: 1140 South Cedarview Drive

Address2:

City: Bozeman

State: MT

Province/Region:

Zip/Postal Code: 59715

Country: United States

Email: Rjgriffen@aol.com

Phone: 4065802643

Comments:

I oppose any loss of any single track trails for Mountain Bike (mtb) use. The loss of the Gallatin Crest trail in the last travel plan was a terrible decision. Not many bikers even used this trail, it was a great high alpine adventure enjoyed by a few hardcore mtb riders. Yet there is still a trail running race allowed to continue on the trail every year? Seems a bit one sided.

I support continued use of All the trails in the Lionhead area for mtb use, including the CDT and Watkins creek, coffin lakes and sheep creek. Mtb riders are helping maintain these trails , there is not a lot of use of this area, it should stay open .

I would like the trails in the Hyalite area to remain open. Emerald lake and Hyalite creek trails are doing well with the current trail share options. Blackmore , South Cottonwood, wheeler mt areas are great riding. These areas close to Bozeman should be utilized and expanded for local use, allowing people a place to recreate and explore close to town.

The Bridger mountain trails are not a good choice for wilderness consideration. Let people recreate close to town so they don't have drive hours to ride.

Dry creek and west pine in the paradise valley are a good option for biking late season and are not overly used. They should remain open to mtb use.

The northern slopes of the AB wilderness should remain open to current uses. Motor bikes don't have much left in the CGNF , let them keep access to deer creek. I do think motor bikes damage trails and thus they need to be managed differently than mountain bikes. The bridger foothills trail between Ross pass and Truman gulch has been trashed by motorbike use in the past five years.

Mountain bikes should still be able to use Blacktail creek and Graham creek, these trails need maintenance and some re routings, not closure.

Line creek plateau, Mt Maurice, Bear Tracks and the trails off west fork rock creek should remain open to mtb riders.

I have ridden in all these areas over the past 25 years, mountain bikes don't damage trails. I love to recreate in all these areas on my bike. I do believe in wilderness , but it shouldn't be used all over the forest to banish mtb riders.

I have seen lots of different wildlife over the years as I biked around in the Custer Gallatin National Forest, they seem to be doing well in the areas we use. I don't feel mtb riders disturb wildlife any more than hikers and trail runners.

Chur, Richard Griffen