

Greg Warren

From: Greg Warren <NSTrail@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 11:12 AM
To: comments-rocky-mountain-shoshone@fs.fed.us
Cc: otroxel@fs.fed.us; NSTrail@comcast.net
Subject: Comments: Proposed Action for the Mountain Bike Route Designation Project
Attachments: cdnst_planning_handbook.pdf

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I appreciate this opportunity to provide comments on the Shoshone National Forest proposal to provide new mountain biking opportunities on the Shoshone National Forest and to designate a system of trails for mountain bike use. In general, I support the proposed action to restrict mountain bikes to a designated system of NFS trails that are compatible with Forest Plan direction and designated area purposes and constraints.

The scoping notice states that, “the proposed action is consistent with direction in the LMP which directs the Forest Supervisor to provide mountain biking opportunities (RDTR-GOAL-05). The management approach for trails is to “focus on providing experiences that are under-represented, such as mountain biking” when considering new non-motorized trail opportunities (Forest Plan, page 104). Any alternatives developed in response to public comments will also align with direction found in the LMP.” The proposal to designate mountain bike trails must also address direction that the, “Management of the CDNST is [to be] consistent with the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail Comprehensive Plan (USDA Forest Service 2009). That plan describes the nature and purposes of the trail as: ‘The nature and purposes of the CDNST are to provide high-quality scenic, primitive hiking and horseback riding opportunities and to conserve natural, historic, and cultural resources along the CDNST corridor’” (Forest Plan ROD, page 29).

Procedures for addressing motor vehicle use and mountain bike use on the CDNST travel route is found in FSM 2353.44b parts 10 and 11. Specifically, the designation Brooks Lake Trail #823 and Pine Creek Trail #910 for mountain bikes use should not occur unless approved through processes identified in the CDNST Comprehensive Plan Chapter IV(B)5b(2) and FSM 2353.44b part 10. The attached CDNST Planning Handbook provides additional information about the planning and management of the CDNST, including NEPA process guidance.

Please add me to your mailing list for receiving information throughout the remainder of the planning and NEPA analysis process for this project – NSTrail@comcast.net. To facilitate future public involvement in project assessments, please note in a SOPA notice when a project may affect the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDNST).

Thank for considering these comments.

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