

Date submitted (Mountain Standard Time): 6/6/2019 3:37:28 PM

First name: Carol

Last name: Fifer

Organization:

Title:

Official Representative/Member Indicator:

Address1: 4750 Meadow Lane

Address2:

City: Bozeman

State:

Province/Region: MT

Zip/Postal Code: 59715

Country: United States

Email: catfifer@gmail.com

Phone: 4064513880

Comments:

Ladies and gentlemen,

For a number of years I maintained, hiked, and photographed mountain bike trails. I was shocked when I began to hike trails around Bozeman. The damage done to trails by bikes, both motorized and human powered has left permanent scars thru our forests. The riders, mainly motorized, frequently fly up behind hikers demanding you instantly step off the trail or risk injury. The sound alone is intrusive on both people and wildlife. The newest invention is electric bikes which will move even faster and further than human powered vehicles and invade the wilderness areas

Those wilderness areas are to be preserved for wildlife where they can exist without human interference.

There are already miles and miles of existing bike trails. We do not need to encroach into the woods when it is already impossible for the Forest Service to monitor what we have.

My personal experience with building, maintaining, hiking, and photographing mountain bike trails has taught me the difference between a good trail and an abused trail. Sadly the trails in the Custer-Gallatin Forest fall into the latter category. Please do not add one more foot of bike trail. Please retain every square inch of

Wilderness for undisturbed wildlife.

Thank you.