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Timber Production, Wilderness Designations, and Management Prescriptions in the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests

Good morning!

I am writing in support of IMBA-SORBA's positions, which I recently received, as follows:

? IMBA-SORBA does not support USFS timber production in areas of the forest with heavy recreational use, including the Pisgah District, especially in the Davidson River and South Mills River areas. Timber production in these areas could negatively impact the backcountry mountain biking experience.

? IMBA-SORBA does not support the proposed Wilderness designation in the Pisgah and Grandfather Districts for Daniel Ridge, Laurel Mountain, Cedar Rock Mountain, South Mills River, Woods Mountain, and Jarrett areas. These areas have a high concentration of trails and are heavily used for recreation, including mountain biking.

? IMBA-SORBA requests that the USFS included the above-mentioned areas in a new National Recreation Area that that would give the land the maximum protection while allowing for mountain biking.

? IMBA-SORBA also supports a National Recreation Area designation in the Grandfather District that would include Harper's Creek, Lost Cove, Woods Mountain and Jarret Creek.

? IMBA-SORBA supports some of the Wilderness proposals in areas where there is no mountain biking. We are working with conservation groups and other forest stakeholders to identify these areas.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Jim

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