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Bluff Mtn. Special Interest Area

Dear Planning Team,

We're thrilled to see that Bluff Mtn. has been recognized as a special interest area. We have participated in the last two BioBlizes on Bluff and have seen the rich diversity of the plants and animals on the mountain. The existing trails on Bluff Mtn. provide a peek into the biodiverse community, but additional roads or trails would be damaging to this environment. It's proposed designation of scenic and botanical is very appropriate.

We are also delighted to see Lovers Leap/ Stackhouse Slopes and Spring Creek Gorge proposed as botanical special interest areas. While we haven't spent much time in Spring Creek Gorge, we are familiar with the Lovers Leap/ Stackhouse area. The unusual geology around Hot Springs contributes to the uncommon plants that grow there.

Finally, we have enjoyed awe-inspiring walks through the Big Ivy area, especially in the spring when the wildflowers are spectacular. Thank you for expanding the area.

We extend strong support for all of these special interest areas and applaud you for including them in the proposal for the forest plan. We hope that as special interest areas, these special places will only receive maintenance on existing roads and trails and the health of native plants and animals will guide management into the future.

Thank you,  
Bob & Pat Momich  
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