

Date submitted (UTC-11): 1/17/2019 3:10:28 PM

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Comments:

I am a long time resident of the Wood River Valley in Idaho. My family and I moved here mostly for the paragliding, which is among the best in the world, and the mountain biking and backcountry skiing. Idaho is remote, uncrowded and the backcountry is as isolated as Alaska. Wilderness designation is the most strict public land designation there is...and it is absolutely not needed in the Big Lost Range, the Pioneers and the surrounding areas. These are areas that are barely used as it is. Most people who live here and play in these areas do so because of access. How can we allow grazing and mining but stop mountain biking, paragliding, and other low-impact sports? King Mountain, in the Southern Big Lost range is one of the most famous paragliding and hang gliding sites literally on Earth. People come from all over the world to fly there, and dozens and dozens of competitions have been held there for the past 4 decades. If this designation went through, we wouldn't be able to drive to launch, or launch or land our paragliders there (which has ZERO impact on the natural system- we take one step and then fly without motors!). I strongly urge you to NOT add any more wilderness designation to our area. We have TONS and tons of wilderness designation, which is terrific, but it has to stop. End the stuff that destroys- grazing and mining and leave recreation possible for the very few people who really care about Idaho's natural wonders and protect them anyway.