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Comments:

I generally support the preservation of special ecosystems by wilderness designation and management.

However I also support the preservation of vehicular access to the King Mountain hang gliding launch site, via road 687, and sufficient exemptions to allow continued hang glider operations. This is one of the most famous hang gliding sites in the USA, and the location of a recent National Championships-series competition. Hang gliding has negligible environmental impact. The launch site is little more than a widening at the end of the dirt road, but together with the King Mountain Glider Park on private land in the valley below, it actually represents a developed recreational site, and it should be excluded from the wilderness area inventory on the basis of those improvements.

In other comparable wilderness designations, several hang gliding sites in the Inyo and White mountains in California were protected by "cherry stem" exclusions. The King Mountain launch site deserves the same consideration. Hang glider pilots are recreational tourists, supporting the local economy of Moore, ID. They respect and love the outdoor environment, and are passionate about their sport, willing to travel great distances to experience a great flying site like King Mountain. For a citizen such as myself, preserving this kind of unique public access to public land is no less than the constitutional pursuit of happiness.