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Comments:

Good morning, I am commenting in regards to the West Bridgers area. The trail systems in the West Bridgers have always been multi-use, with allowed mechanized travel. These recreation areas and trails are what drew me to the area fifteen years ago, and I have ridden mountain bikes with hundreds of like minded forest stewards on these trails over the years. These trails need to remain open for mechanized travel. The land accessed in the west Bridgers should not be turned into any form of wilderness area. The population of Bozeman and outdoor community has successfully shared use in this area for decades, and can continue to do so for the foreseeable future. Closing this area to mountain bikes will be a serious detriment to the economy of Bozeman, as these areas help the local outdoor sales economy, and this area has never ever been a "destination" hiking area. The trails will become largely underused and require more human maintenance due to lack of use. Multi activity trails are key to the nearby population of Bozeman. The mountain biking community here is very respectful and we all follow the yield rules of the trail, don't ride when trails are muddy, and always greet passing trail users. Closing this portion of the West Bridgers will literally ruin the recreation opportunities for thousands of the area's inhabitants. Please take into consideration the comments given by locals, and not out of state interest groups. Thank you.