Brian Adams

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Dear PDS,

I am writing to signal my enthusiastic support to the proposed code revision that would create a streamlined process for non-motorized trail construction on DNR Lands. Skagit County is in prime location for a regional mountain bike trail system. Trails continue to be the most popular amenity we can provide recreationalists according to our surveys and polls. This survey/poll data is consistent with all other park/recreation surveys throughout the state.

There is tremendous interest in making our region of the northwest a mountain bike mecca much like the Boulder Colorado area has become. Several trail networks are being sought on public lands, including in the Snohomish and Whatcom County areas. We are hoping to do something similar here in the East Skagit County area, by working with partners and volunteers.

Washington's natural splendor plays a major role in its economy, generating an annual \$7.6 billion in wages and salaries and \$2.3 billion in state and local tax revenue through outdoor recreation, according to the <u>Outdoor Industry Association</u>. Those numbers are up from a <u>previous study</u> released by the association in 2012. Its paramount to keep low-impact recreational proposals streamlined to keep our populations healthy and keep our economy humming.

Thank you,

Brian Adams, Director Skagit County Parks & Recreation

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