

**Subject: [Fwd: Re: Please limit Mountain Biking to paved roads/paths ONLY]**

**Date:** Wed, 16 Feb 2005 15:04:33 -0800

**From:** Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

**To:** Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

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**Subject: RE: Please limit Mountain Biking to paved roads/paths ONLY**

**Date:** Wed, 16 Feb 2005 11:07:38 -0800

**From:** Sean Lind <slind@rackattack.com>

**To:** ecris@dnv.org, sunletters@png.canwest.com, provletters@png.canwest.com, editor@nsnews.com, jharris@dnv.org, mmckeonholmes@dnv.org, lmuri@dnv.org, anixon@dnv.org, rwalton@dnv.org, jcuthbert@dnv.org, fonvca@fonvca.org, cam@nsmb.com

Some mountain bikers are bad people. In fact there as an equal amount of bad person bikers, as bad person hikers. The difference is this:

When a hiker encounters a "bad person biker", they freak and, kick and scream and complain.

When a biker encounters a "bad person hiker", they shake there head and tell the story to friends over a beer after the ride.

Most, if not all of the negative encounters of hikers with bikers are a result of the hiker getting startled by a biker, moving fast around a blind corner. Sometimes this is a result of a biker riding on a hiking trail. This, I completely agree is unacceptable. In fact, all serious mountain bikers share that view. The problem is that MOST of the time this happens, the hiker is in fact walking on a Biker built, maintained, and used trail. Hikers use the trails built by bikers, then complain when they encounter a biker.

On the other side, bikers have to deal with "upset hikers" pulling great stunts that can be life threatening. You sent emails last time you tried to ban biking of people "dismantling jumping ramps" The problem is that lots of hikers don't know how our stunts work. More times then not, these people are dismantling a landing ramp. So instead of making a biker have to stop and not "catch air", like the hiker had attempted to do, the bikers are landing on a pile of broken wood. These Hikers, destroying the biker built trails, have accounted for hundreds of mild to very serious injuries of bikers. I don't understand how you can condone these actions. How is it right for a 13 year old kid to break his leg, because a 60 year old man doesn't like the look of a "jumping ramp"?

You have 2 points, Environmental damage and hiker/biker interaction.

For the environmental damage, as I have stated earlier, I feel it is fair that bikers are given there rights as Canadian citizens to be innocent until proven guilty.

as for hiker/biker interaction, the solution is education Mr.Crist. Banning bikers is not a just, or proper solution to this "mild" problem. And I say mild because it is NOT a large problem. I have been biking for 8 years myself, I have encountered hundreds upon hundreds of hikers on these thousands of rides. There has never been a problem with me. I have asked 10 other bikers this question, ranging from the age of 15 to 48. Together we figure we have massed over 100,000 rides in our combined. Legacy. Supposing we average 1 hiker interaction per ride (that is stupidly low). That's 5 remembered problems out of 100,000. Those problems where people getting angry, not getting hurt in any way. That brings our combined percentage of problems with hikers to 0.005%. Call me crazy, but I do not feel that that total warrants action of this sort. You seem to only want to listen to the letters from your friends on the hill.

I invite you Mr.Crist to come down to the "Advil Outdoor Adventure Show" this weekend at BC Place. I'll will gladly pay for your entrance, and show you around the show. I'll introduce you to the kids and adults at the "indoor north shore" show. What you are proposing will not effect you in any way. But it will make a huge effect on these people. I feel it's fair that you meet some of the people you are trying to hurt.

-Sean Lind

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Ernie Crist [mailto:ernie\_crist@dnv.org]

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 16, 2005 10:38 AM

**To:** slind@rackattack.com

**Subject:** FW: Please limit Mountain Biking to paved roads/paths ONLY

[I have removed the name of this person to protect her identity.](#)

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**To:** Mayor and Council - DNV

**Cc:** James Ridge

**Subject:** Please limit Mountain Biking to paved roads/paths ONLY

The environmental destruction being caused by mountain bikes is unconscionable, not to mention the unfortunate and disagreeable encounters on paths between the bikers and the hikers. The bikers can come on the trails—just keep the bikes out. Please ban mountain biking on Fromme Mountain.

Thank you,

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