

**Subject:** [Fwd: Mtn. bikers dislike wilderness closure]  
**From:** Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>  
**Date:** Mon, 14 Jan 2008 11:02:20 -0800  
**To:** Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

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**Subject:** Mtn. bikers dislike wilderness closure  
**From:** Monica Craver <mecraver@shaw.ca>  
**Date:** Mon, 14 Jan 2008 10:59:05 -0800  
**To:** fonvca@fonvca.org

Dear FONVCA:

**More trails are being closed, today, to mountain biking in the USA forests, while DNV is still advocating to build more trails for renegade freeride/extreme/north shore style mountain biking inside wetland/parkland/temperate rain forest?!**

**More and more people are finding out mountain biking has *nothing at all* about being being "good" stewards of the forest, or about ecological protection -- but *ONLY* about "their loss of an epic ride." How mighty selfish of the freeriding mountain bikers who fight against any "constraint" of their unsustainable activities inside the forest. Many kudos to the US Forest Service who are becoming "savvy" to the reality of the mountain biker *agenda*.**

***Why is DNV so determined to go against the grain of common sense? Why won't they properly protect critical habitat and "species-at-risk" from extreme wheeled sports activities by banning mountain biking from an ecologically biodiverse area all together? Where is the real management of the forest they promised us?***

***Where is the DNV trails "plan", promised us? It is really only a concept, which gives a "carte blanche" to DNV Parks Staff and the NSMBA. For shame!***

**<http://www.summitdaily.com/article/20080113/NEWS/571502717>**

### **Around the Mountains: *Mtn. bikers dislike wilderness closure***

BY ALLAN BEST  
special to the daily  
January 13, 2008

DURANGO — Mountain bikers are disturbed by a recommendation from the U.S. Forest Service to create a new wilderness area between Durango and Silverton that would close 20 miles of the Colorado Trail to wheels.

The recommendation, if adopted by Congress, would also make at least six other trails off-limits to biking, reports the Durango Telegraph.

**"It's definitely a conundrum for mountain bikers," said Mark Richey, a mountain biking advocate. "We all love wilderness areas, but we feel like we're excluded by their (recommendation) designation. It's not a comfortable place to be in."**

While the Forest Service cites comparatively little use by mountain bikers in the area in question, mountain

bikers disagree. Bill Manning, director of the Colorado Trail Foundation, also noted that the wilderness designated would eliminate the ride from Molas Divide to Durango, a 75-mile grunt considered one of the nation's epic rides.

**My Comment to the Editor of the Summit Daily:**

**"Now I have heard it all. Mountain bikers are calling closure of many trails to wheels "a conundrum". I don't see what the problem is?**

**The mountain bikers are *NOT* being excluded from the wilderness -- JUST their bikes! How is that a conundrum?**

**They can still enjoy the wilderness on foot, like the majority of us, and learn to step gently into protected wilderness. Amen to that!"**

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--Monica Craver--

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