

Subject: Fwd: Do Mountain Bikes Belong in Our Natural Places?

From: Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

Date: 11/07/2013 2:54 PM

To: Corrie Kost <corrie@kost.ca>

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

Subject: Do Mountain Bikes Belong in Our Natural Places?

Date: Thu, 11 Jul 2013 14:37:57 -0700

From: Monica Craver <mecraver@shaw.ca>

To: DNV Mayor and Council <council@dnv.org>

CC: <fonvca@fonvca.org>

Dear Mayor and Council: Do mountain bikes belong in our natural places. My answer, and those of others, is an emphatic NO! After several years, more people are finally waking up to the sordid truth about mountain biking. The growing evidence of damage from mountain biking on our natural places is finally being seen! The mtb sport has never changed its renegade colours. Too many public land managers enable it.

On the North Shore, alone, we are seeing too many damaging mountain bike races, rain or shine (the NSMBA Toonie Races, for instance, with up to 80 reckless racers bombing down the slopes -- rain or shine!) We are seeing too many NEW trails and accompanying abusement park structures being built, and older trails being eroded beyond repair. We are seeing more damaged and diseased trees, damaged drainage, silting of streams and ponds, damaged aquifers, vernal pools and natural seeps being plugged up and rock armoured. We are now seeing more mountain biking related deaths -- someday a child will die on one of those cuckoo mountain bike structures built to "challenge" the bikers.

So many children are being signed up to those loco "mtn. bike camps" by their parents, soon to become hyper mountain bike addicts, squealing down our slopes and our streets, and using our sidewalks as another "trail" to conquer. Is there no place I can walk safely without dodging all these adrenaline hyped bikers? Two bike camps with at least a dozen children, apiece, have exited Mountain View Park, while I have been writing this email. The little rugrats were all wearing body armour and full-face helmets, learning to conquer nature. Thanks for this sordid mtb legacy, Mayor Walton and company. Two deaths have already occurred on the North Shore from uncontained and little enforced free ride mountain biking.

And yet, in some convoluted way, DNV continues to tell us mountain biking to be "sustainable" on our Mt. Fromme and Seymour slopes, while pouring more public money into appeasing it. **Enough, already!** People are not stupid, you know. And more are beginning to speak out against this wicked sport akin to motorized off-road dirt biking. Mountain biking is a renegade, yahoo off-road thrillsport in our midst. That fact has never changed.

Bikes bad for nature?

City streamkeeper doesn't think bike race should be held in conservation area

<http://www.burnabynow.com/technology/Bikes+nature/8618925/story.html>

(as usual, the Burnaby defends mountain biking races as benign to nature. Go figure, eh? Oh right, DNV does the same thing...)

plus,

Do Mountain Bikes Belong in Alpine Meadows? *(ie. Whistler, Mt. Hood)*

<http://earthfix.kcts9.org/land/article/do-mountain-bikes-belong-at-mount-hoods-timberline/>

and

Do Mountain Bike Trails Belong In The Cascade Mountains?

<http://www.nwpr.org/post/do-mountain-bike-trails-belong-cascade-mountains>

plus, another juicy [summertime mountain biking story](#) to warm the cockles of your heart...Yummy...

Down but not out — A cautionary mountain tale

<http://www.piquenewsmagazine.com/whistler/down-but-not-out-a-cautionary-mountain-tale/Content?oid=2464365>

The bad news about mountain biking keeps on coming....stay tuned for the next bit of news that paints mountain biking as a destructive sport in our midst, to be strictly contained and enforced, not given the "Keys to our Forests" (which DNV seems to have given the NSMBA). <sigh> Protect Mountain View Park wetland and upland area and BAN mountain biking from it. Thank you.

--Monica Craver--

North Vancouver, V7K 2R3
