



Trails Mix Committee  
C/O Bonner County Parks and Waterways  
1500 Hwy 2 Suite 101, Sandpoint, ID 83864

12.15.2020

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the Director of Recreation and Waterways for Bonner County, Idaho, as well as the Chairman for the Bonner County Trail Mix Committee. I am also involved in creation of the Bonner County Trails Plan, within which the Watershed Crest Trail is the #1 priority.

Bonner County is home to vast mountains, waterways, and some of the greatest scenic trails in the inland northwest. There are currently around 660 miles of biking, hiking, walking, and ATV trails in Bonner County, but much of these trails are in remote areas that require several hours of transportation to get to.

Bonner County's population is growing exponentially, with over 10% growth expected over the next few years, with most of this growth focused in and around the county seat of Sandpoint. There are notably few trails close to our population center, and this project would provide miles of new trail just minutes from where people actually live and recreate.

We are very fortunate to have volunteer organizations that provide much of the trail maintenance and preservation, such as Pend Oreille Pedelars, who have taken on the responsibility to construct trails in the Little Sand Creek Watershed and pledge for the ongoing care and maintenance of the trails in the greater Watershed Crest Trail network. I have been involved in the WCT project for several years and am very much in support of continuing progress towards completing this grand vision!

By supporting the current project, therefore, the Idaho MTB license plate grant and Recreational Trails Program grant will help meet the urgent need for improved safety, sustainability, and public health, while supporting economic and community development in the North Idaho region.

Thank you for your consideration,

Nate Demmons  
Recreation Manager  
Bonner County Parks and Waterways  
Chairman for the Bonner County Trail Mix Committee