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Pend Oreille Pedalers,

Sandpoint Nordic Club has experienced strong growth over the past decade and now has over 400 members. Most of these members are year-round outdoor enthusiasts. Our Nordic season here in the valley is typically about 3 months, leaving the remaining 9 months open for other complementary activities such as hiking, biking, running, backpacking, hunting, fishing, etc. Many of these activities are trail focused. Additionally, most of our members are families. These families are often looking for outdoor activities that are convenient and suited to the whole family.

The Lower Basin trail network is a great example of a convenient trail that many of our members utilize for biking, hiking and running. One unfortunate result of the tremendous increase in usage of this trail is the potential for uphill and downhill traffic conflicts. This is particularly important for the families that may recreate on this trail.

The Sandpoint Nordic Club race team trains year-round. Much of their training is focused on uphill running and bounding. The Lower Basin trails are a favorite of the team.

Sandpoint Nordic Club enthusiastically supports the Pend Oreille Pedalers plan for the Lower Basin trail improvements.

Best regards,

**Ross Longhini** 

President, Sandpoint Nordic Club