

PRC Concept of Management
2007 Update

Comments Received After 9/15/07 until noon on 11/7/07

ID#	Category	Use	Summary of Comment
1	RLE	MB	Saddened with closure of Shingle Mill Pathway (SMP) to mountain bikers. It provides a unique opportunity, concerned with potential deterioration of trail resulting from no more volunteer assistance from Michigan Mountain Biking Association (MMBA)
2	RLE	MB	Concerned with the closing of SMP and the potential negative impact on mountain biking in MI. Any closing of trails in MI jeopardizes the promotion of tourism and could have an effect on people moving into MI. Loss of active volunteer base for trail by MMBA.
3	RLE	E and MB	Concerned with restriction on mountain bike and horseback riding.
4	RLE	MB	Disappointed with closure of SMP. Noted future deterioration of trail due to loss of important volunteer base MMBA.
5	RLE	MB	Concerned with restriction on mountain bike riding. Closing SMP will have a negative impact on campground occupancy rates.
6	RLE	MB	Asking for the SMP not to be closed. Concerned with loss of volunteer work on trails and reduced numbers of campers. Keeping High Country Pathway open to mountain bikes is great but it is an epic trail that is beyond the abilities of many Michigan riders.
7	RLE	MB	Concerned with closing of SMP. Believes mountain bikers have positive impacts on the trail systems rather than negative. Note that other states across the country are embracing mountain biking as a healthy use for the land.
8	RLE	MB	Concerned with closing of SMP and that mountain bikers may seek alternative destination riding opportunities in Ohio. Also concerned with the loss of volunteer efforts form MMBA.
9	RLE	MB	Concerned with the closing of the SMP. Believes closing the trail to a volunteer group that has completed so many hours of service is unfair.
10	RLE	MB	Concerned with the closing of the SMP. Cyclists have traditionally been good stewards of trail care. Access to public lands drives a large part of Michigan's very limited northern economy. Closure will negatively impact this economy.
11	RLE	MB	Request not to close SMP to mountain bikes.
12	RLE	MB	Concern with restricted use for mountain bikes. This area is a destination for mountain bikers.
13	RLE	MB	Appreciates opportunity to ride mountain bike on public lands. Plans vacations around this activity. Concerned with the closing and the future use of mountain bikes on state lands. Questions the reason for closure.
14	RLE	E	Concerned with the overuse of trails by horses.

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Use: E - Equestrian, MB - Mountain Bike

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15	RLE	E	Concerned with the conflict between horses and vehicles on two track roads. Claims it is unsafe and shares personal experience. Questions DNR potential liability should conflicts occur.
16	RLE	MB	Concerned with the closing of the SMP.
17	RLE	MB	Requesting that access to SMP be remain open to mountain bike use. If you close it you will lose thousands of hours of FREE trail work a year.
18	RLE	MB	Concerned with restricting use of mountain bikes. States it is a mutually beneficial arrangement, mountain bikers need the trail and the trail needs MMBA volunteer efforts.
19	RLE	E	Concerned with ability to move from one off site horse camp to another without going on road system. Would like for trails to remain open to horse use especially for families. Horses and vehicles on two track roads are not compatible
20	RLE	MB	Concerned with the exclusion of mountain bikes. Questions why MI doesn't embrace mountain bike use more and that opportunities in MI rival the best in the country. Claims there is scientific proof that mountain biking has no more significant impact on the trails and nature areas than other uses.
21	RLE	MB	Concerned with closure of SMP and the negative impact to the economy as a result.
22	RLE	MB	Concerned with closure of SMP. This closure will have a big impact on an important user group of the MI park system. Disturbing that DNR would cut off access to the group that helps maintain the trail.
23	RLE	MB	Displeased with the closure of the SMP. Mentioned the Thunder Bay Trails Association received the DNR first "Partner in Conservation" Award for hands on improvements and funding provided for work on the Norway Ridge and the Chippewa Hills non-motorized trails system.
24	RLE	MB	Disappointed with the SMP closure with no explanation.
25	RLE	MB	Concerned with closure of SMP, loss of volunteer maintenance efforts and impact to the economy.
26	RLE	MB	Concerned with the closure of the SMP and loss of volunteer efforts.
27	RLE	MB	Concerned with the closure of the SMP.
28	RLE	MB	Concerned with closure of SMP, loss of volunteer maintenance efforts and impact to the economy.
29		OVERALL	Appalled at the misuse and overuse of the forest by horses, cyclists, and motorized vehicles of every type. There is no need for a 2007 Update of the Concept. Just follow the original concept and enforce the rules and regulations necessary to protect and preserve this forest jewel.
30	RLE	MB	Concerned with the closure of SMP and loss of volunteer efforts as a result.

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31	RLE	MB	Concerned with the closure of SMP and loss of volunteer efforts as a result.
32	RLE	MB	Concerned with the closure of the SMP and the reduced numbers of campers as a result. Keeping High Country Pathway open is great but it requires abilities beyond many MI riders.
33	RLE	MB	Concerned with the closure of the SMP and loss of volunteer efforts.
34	RLE	MB	Concerned with the closure of the SMP and loss of volunteer efforts.
35	RLE	MB	Concerned with the closure of the SMP. If it is due to budget issues why not charge a fee to anyone who uses the area?
36	RLE	MB	Concerns with the closure of the SMP and that the decision was not based on scientific evidence. The Department should do further research. Mountain bike users are low impact, contribute more volunteer hours than any other group and are well organized.
37		OVERALL	Trails were not clearly identified in the draft and should be clearly noted on any plan. In the spirit of transparency the 18 citizen members and the these exofficio members to he DNR and DEQ exofficio member should be well known. Objects to the statement on page 12 (original draft) that gives the power to the Department to define what they feel are disruptive activities.
38	RLE	MB	Concerned with closure of the SMP
39	RLE	MB	Concerned with closure of the SMP and impact on healthy lifestyle activities.
40	RLE	MB	Concerned with closure of SMP
41	RLE	MB	Concerned with the closure of the SMP. Mountain biking has been proven to have a minimal impact to natural areas. Concerned about the message it sends.
42	RLE	MB	Concerned with closure of SMP after two decades of use by mountain bikes with no apparent reason.
43	RLE	E	Concerned with horse use restrictions. The proposed changes will prohibit the uses the family currently enjoys. Also feels that their horse ownership is always represented properly by the Michigan Horse Council and the Michigan Trail Riders. DNR needs to reach out to the people using the resource that will be most affected.
44	RLE	E	Concerned with restrictions on horse trail riding. Request trails remain open to horse use as it provides unique and valuable experiences you do not get from riding on the roads (and roads are hard on horses that are not shod with shoes).
45	RLE	E	Requesting trails remain open to horses. Elk and loggers have a greater impact on the forest than horse use.

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46	RLE	E	Concerned with and questioning why the DNR would restrict horseback riding in the PRC when it brings in so much revenue to the area.
47	RLE	E	Request to reconsider limitations for horseback riding in the PRC.
48	RLE	E	Request to reconsider limitations for horseback riding in the PRC. People with horses spend money for fuel, food and sometimes motels. Spreading of weeds not a good reasons to restrict horse use as birds spread seeds across the country.
49	RLE	E	Restricted trail use by horses greatly diminishes riding possibilities and will force horses to share the road with vehicles (a potentially hazardous situation).
50	RLE	E	Horse travel is environmentally friendly and should not be prohibited
51	RLE	E	Opposed to limiting horseback riding. State needs tourism to replace lost manufacturing dollars.
52	RLE	MB	Concerned with the closure of the SMP and that a valuable volunteer group that is being ban.
53	RLE	E	Concerned with the closure of horse camp sites and restrictions on trails.
54	RLE	E	Concerned with the closure of horse camp sites and restrictions on trails.
55	RLE	MB	Concerned with the closure of the SMP.
56	RLE	E	Concerned with restrictions on horseback riding in the PRC.
57	RLE	E	Concerned with horse use limitations.
58	RLE	MB	Supports the continued use of the SMP for mountain bikers.
59	RLE	MB	Concerned with the closure of the SMP. Suggests working together.
60	RLE	E	Concerned with changes in the concept and the impact to horseback riding and camping. Also concerned with only allowing horses to travel on roads with vehicles stating it is dangerous.
61	RLE	E	Concerned with the proposed changes for horses and camping. Keep the 10 sites at Elk Hill open. Offers some suggestions and is concerned about riding on roads with vehicles and mentions safety as the reason.
62	RLE	E	Has a problem with the proposal of closing all off sites and general riding done due to a non-native plant species that is being suggested to come from horse droppings. Suggest allowing more time prior to a decision.
63	RLE	E	Concerned with proposed changes regarding horseback riding limited to vehicle access roads.
64	RLE	E	Concerned with proposed closure of horse camping opportunities.

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65	RLE	MB	Concerned with closure of pathways to bicyclists.
66	RLE	E	Concerned with proposed changes regarding horseback riding limited to vehicle access roads.
67	RLE	MB	Concerned with the closure of the SMP to mountain bikes
68	RLE	E	Concerned with the proposed changes for horse use.
69	RLE	E	Request not to limit horse use any further.
70	RLE	E	Concerned with the restrictions for horses.
71	RLE	E	Request to keep dispersed camping open to horses.
72		Overall	Support of the proposed 2007 Update of the Concept of Management for the Pigeon River Country.
73		Overall	Concerned with language regarding motorized watercrafts, horseback riding, and bicycling.
74	RLE	E	Concerned with limitations for horseback riding.