

General Public Comment

From: [Beverly McCurdy](#)
To: [sbcob](#)
Subject: Horses and mountain bikes are not compatible on LIVE OAK Trail.
Date: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:09:34 PM

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Dear Mr.Chair and Honorable Supervisors:

Please add my letter to the growing number of concerned equestrians who oppose this idea.

I am a Santa Barbara County equestrian rider.

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For several weeks now our Equestrian Coalition has come before your Board to ask for a proper review and project development process for changes to the Live Oak Trail on the north shore of Cachuma Lake, the last equestrian trail in Santa Barbara County. To date, the County has not considered nor complied with our request.

Live Oak is enjoyed by multiple generations and as a resource, is truly

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invaluable as it provides the required equity in the County trail system for all ages, genders, and all trail sports.

We see what is happening and know the agenda all too well. The mountain bikes are coming. All other trails in the County and Los Padres National Forest allow for mountain bikes but because of reckless and aggressive riders, equestrians no longer ride there out of fear for their safety. Recreation management agencies have neither the staff nor funding to patrol and enforce rules and etiquette. This is true of the County Parks Division. Live Oak is the only safe trail left to us.

The multi-use trail concept is a failure in terms of equity on local trails, caters to one trail sport group, and is prejudicial. In fact, there is a dedicated mountain bike trail/track at Cachuma's main recreation area on the south shore of the Lake at the Mohawk Group Camp area.

Horses are already prohibited from the main recreation area and cannot access any of the trails located there. I am adamant that mountain bikes have no place and should not be allowed on Live Oak Trail and that the trail remain safe for equestrian trail riders.

I support the proposal for mountain bike activities to continue on the trails on the southern shore of the Lake and the equestrian trail to remain on the north shore at Live Oak Camp/Trail.

PLEASE No mountain bikes to be allowed on the Live Oak Trail!

Thank you,

Beverly McCurdy

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