

WHAT: 30 miles of multi-use trails in the Wayne National Forest

We are currently raising funds for Phase 1 of this project, which will include:

- a detailed design plan, prepared by Applied Trail Designs, for the initial 30 miles of trail
- a master plan detailing 100 miles of potential trail, including locations of trailheads, campsites and parking lots

These 30 miles will be easily accessible to local communities with at least two trailheads and the possibility of connecting in with Hockhocking Adena Bikeway, via a spur to Chauncey. While these trails will be optimized for mountain biking, they will also be ideal for hikers, trailrunners, mountain bikers and nature-watchers.

The goal is for the Athens area (including 45 miles of existing trail at Strouds Run and Lake Hope State Parks) to be recognized as an International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) ride center, positioning the area as **one of only three such destinations in the region.**

WHO: Athens Bicycle Club, in coalition with:

- Wayne National Forest
 - Athens County Commissioners
 - OU Recreation Studies Program
 - Athens County Visitor's Bureau
 - Athens City and County Planners
 - International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA)
 - Central Ohio MTB Organization (COMBO)
 - Southeast Ohio Trail Runners
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WHY: Economic, health and community benefits

Economic

In the United States, mountain bikers spend on average 3.2 nights on a mountain bike-related trip. For the average group size of three travelers, this equates to a total trip expenditure between \$451 and \$605.

Health

Trails bring the health benefits of outdoor recreation to communities that otherwise do not have a strong exercise culture.

Community

Trails bring people together, revitalize communities, and cultivate a sense of place. Trails systems like this one make communities more attractive to newcomers, and increase quality of life for locals.

Oakridge, Oregon

This rural town reports between 2.35 and 4.91 million dollars in annual spending directly related to mountain bike tourism.

Morgantown, WV

60% of trail users exercise more regularly since they began using trails – 23% did not exercise regularly at all before they had trail access.

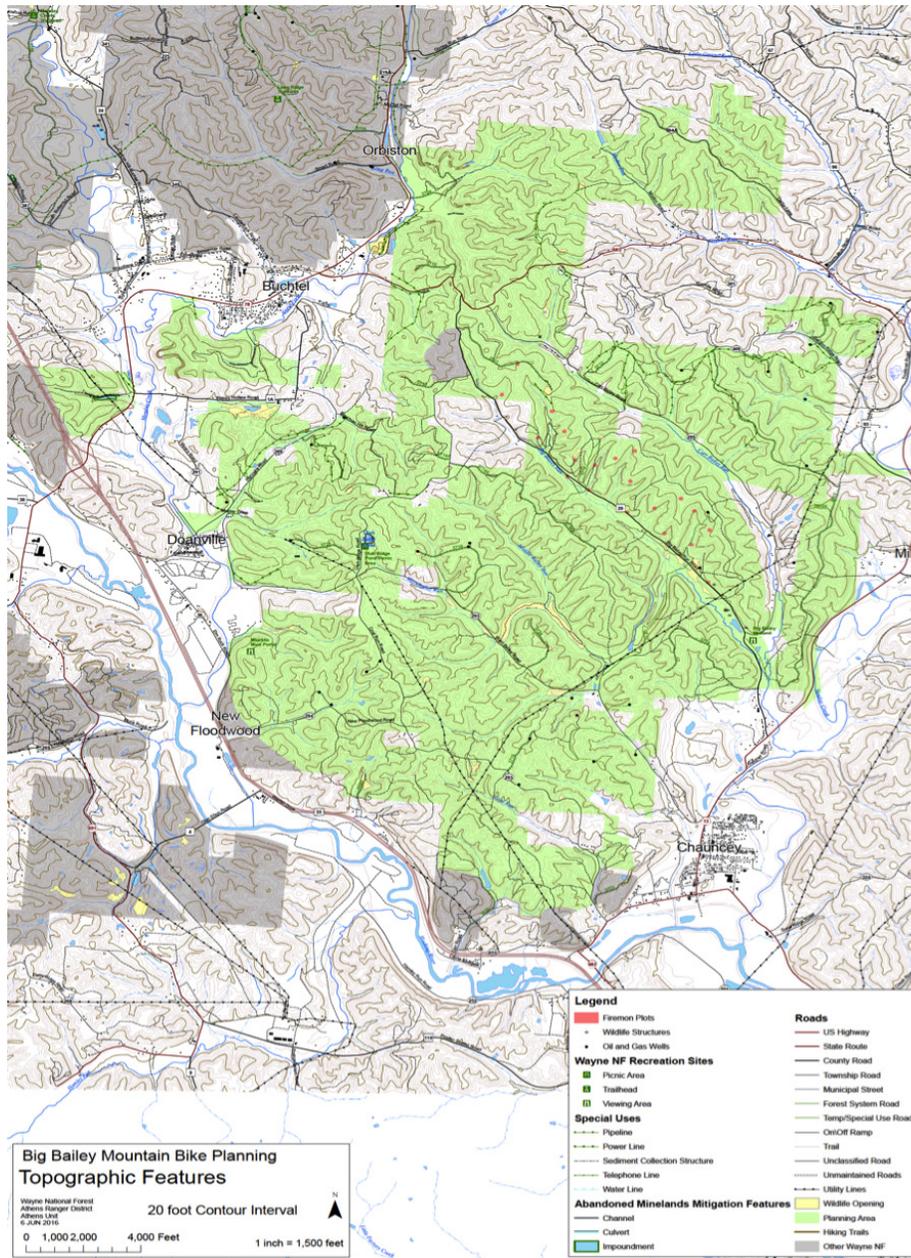
Nebraska

68% of residents near four rural trail systems in Nebraska say that trails have had a positive influence on their community. 59% report an increased sense of community pride.

HOW TO HELP: To contract Applied Trail Designs to begin the master plan in March 2017, we need to collect a total of \$28,000. The Wayne National Forest has already committed \$5,000 to funding the master plan, as well as providing access to 6,000 acres of federal land. Considering the federal funds slotted for construction, the Bailey Tract project represents a million dollar investment in rural Southeast Ohio. **Any dollar given now will translate to \$25 (or more) invested back into these communities.**

To get involved, contact Danny Twilley (twilley@ohio.edu) or Pete Kotses (pete@athensbicycle.com)

MAP



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