

Bikepacking & bikepackers: A growing public lands user group

Kaitlyn Boyle & Kurt Refsnider







What's bikepacking?

The short answer: it's backpacking/horsepacking with a bike.

Longer answer: any dirt-focused ride that includes an overnight stay. This could be anything from ultralight singletrack tours to fully loaded dirt road touring.



Messrs. Allen & Saché Ltd. "Round the World" bicyclists
at Yuen Tai, Shensi, North China. Oct 10th 1892. Chiu-yueh





Bikepacking Across Alaska and Canada

ARTICLE AND PHOTOGRAPHS
BY DAN BURDEN

Afoot in a sea of mud, adventure-bound cyclists push their mounts over a rain-softened, unfinished highway in British Columbia, en route from Anchorage, Alaska, to Missoula, Montana. On more heavily traveled roads, their pennants signal their presence to motorists.

The 3,103-mile journey marks the first leg of Hemistour, an expedition launched by Dan and Lys Burden and Greg and June Siple. The ultimate goal of their 20,000-mile trip: the tip of South America.

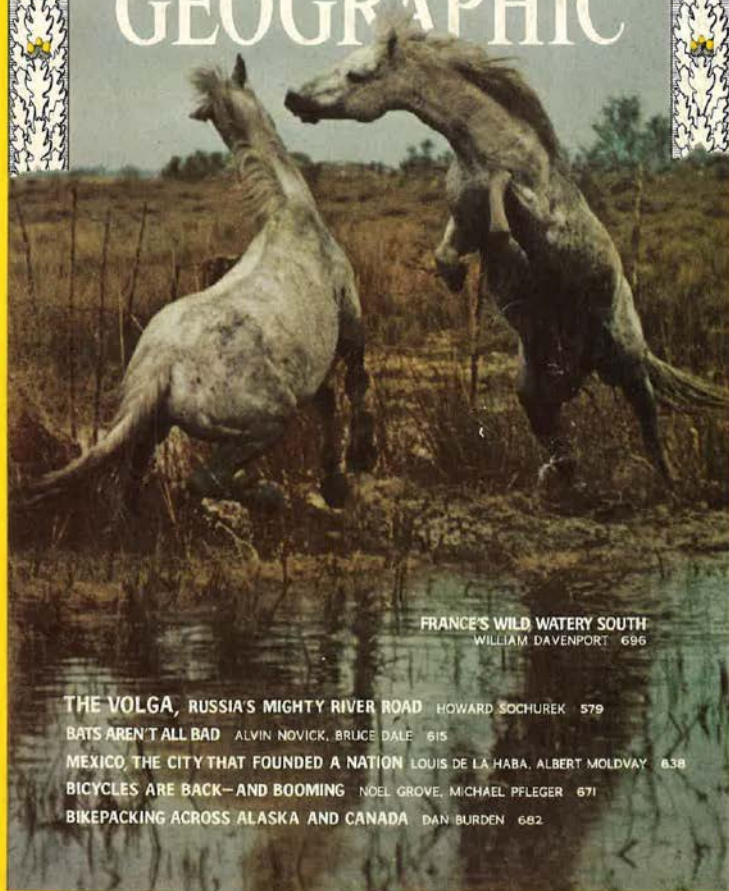
Ma new the w clutch and p a wid deep i Sun compl Cassia equip gray 1 off in a ste store

DOUBLE MAP SUPPLEMENT: MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA

VOL. 143, NO. 5

MAY 1973

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC



FRANCE'S WILD, WATERY SOUTH
WILLIAM DAVENPORT 696

THE VOLGA, RUSSIA'S MIGHTY RIVER ROAD HOWARD SOCHUREK 579

BATS AREN'T ALL BAD ALVIN NOVICK, BRUCE DALE 615

MEXICO, THE CITY THAT FOUNDED A NATION LOUIS DE LA HABA, ALBERT MOLDVAY 638

BICYCLES ARE BACK—AND BOOMING NOEL GROVE, MICHAEL PFLEGER 671

BIKEPACKING ACROSS ALASKA AND CANADA DAN BURDEN 682

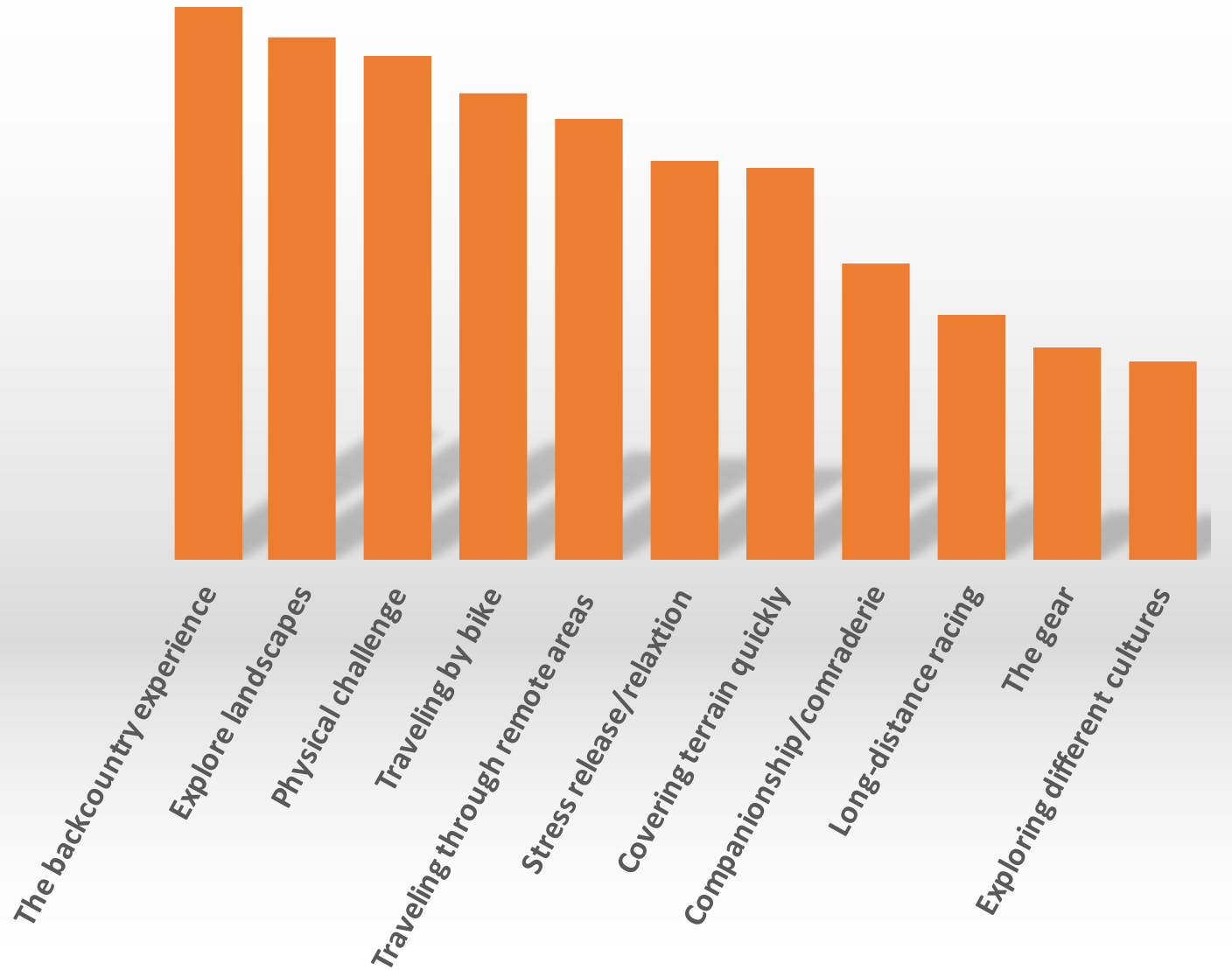
OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY WASHINGTON, D.C.





Illustrated by Tyler Grobowski

“Why do you bikepack?”





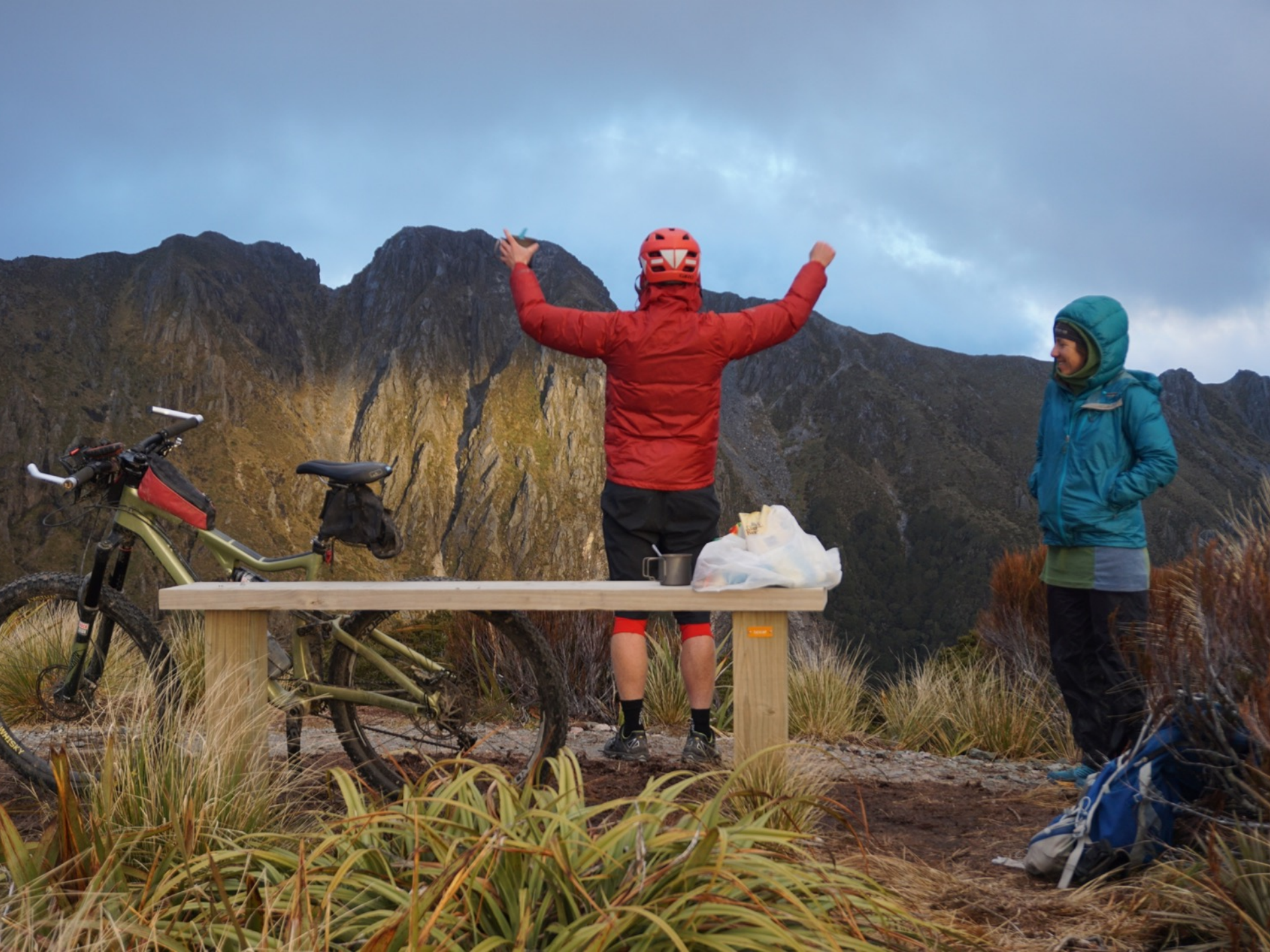








Photo credit: Gritchelle Fallesgon





Photo credit: Jonathan Houck







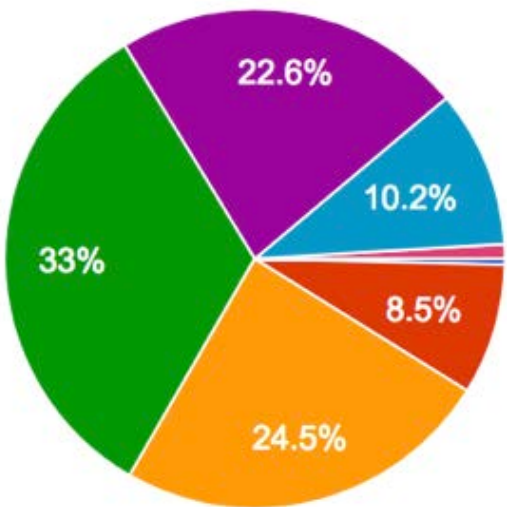


Photo Credit: Jerod Foster, Texas Tech

So who are bikepackers? What are they seeking?



So who are bikepackers? What are they seeking?

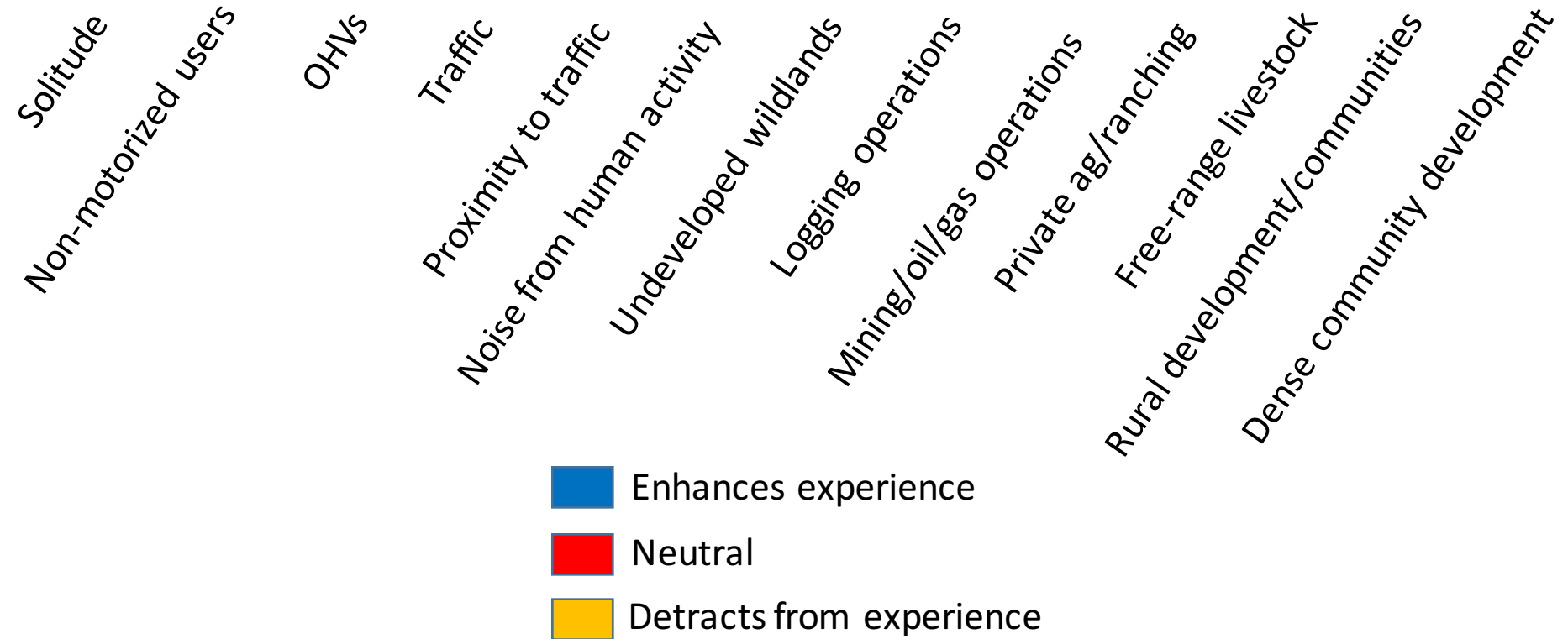


- <20
- 20-29
- 30-39
- 40-49
- 50-59
- 60-69
- 70+

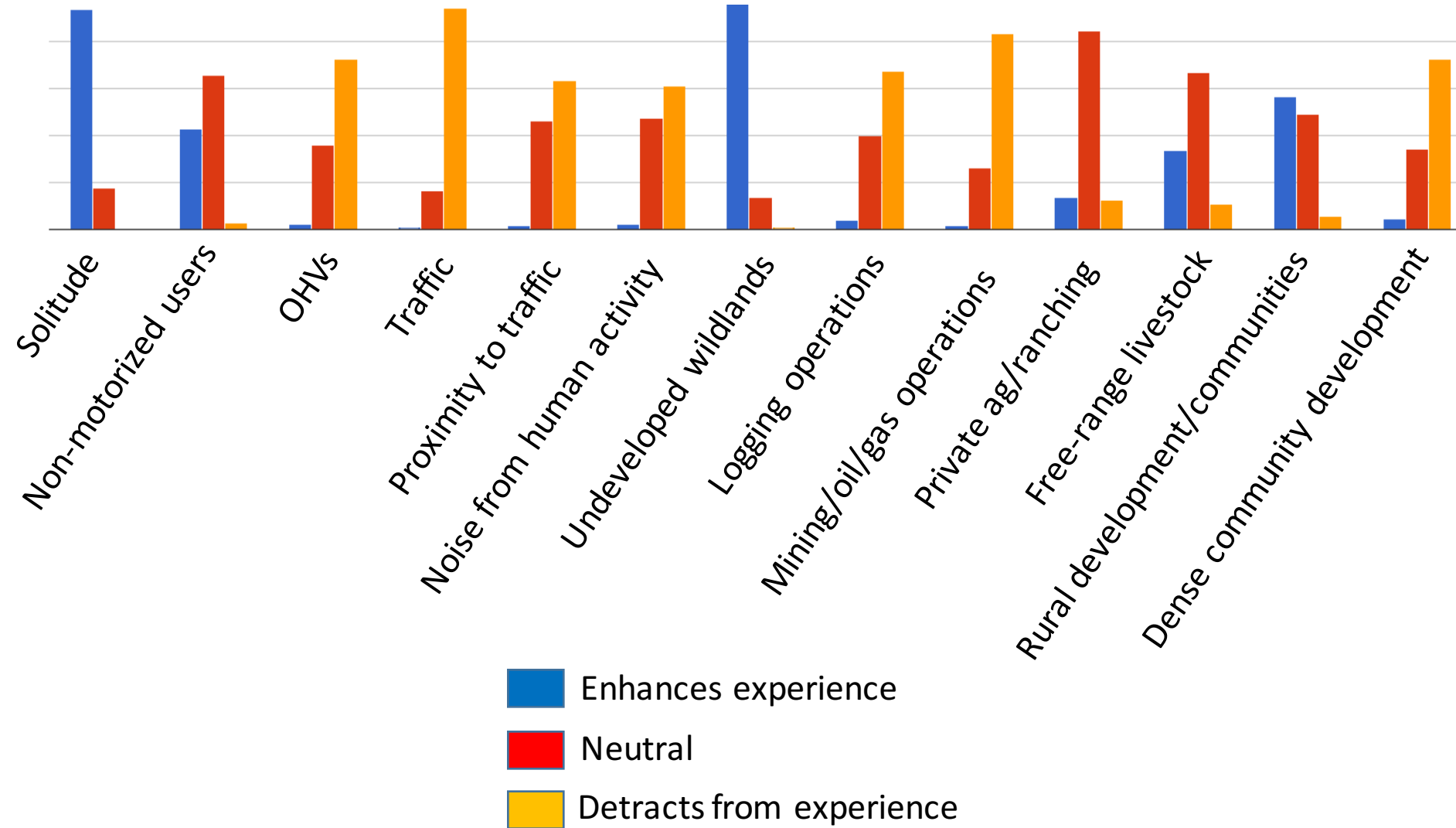


What enhances and detracts from your trail experience?

What enhances and detracts from your trail experience?



“What enhances and detracts from your bikepacking experience?”



What's a "bikepacking route"?









ARIZONA
TRAIL

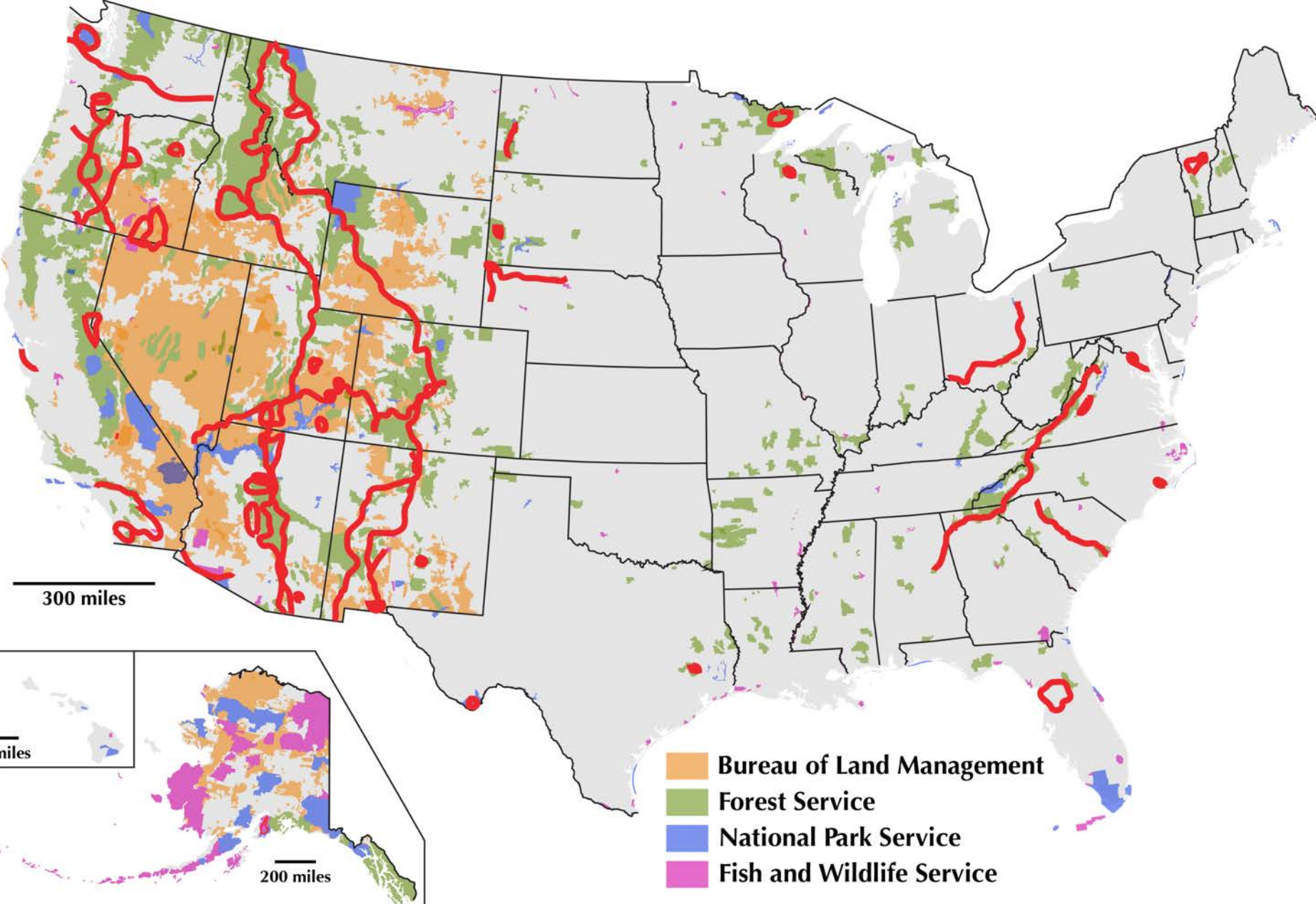




Where do we bikepack?



Where do we bikepack?





Illustrated by Tyler Grobowski

THIS AREA
IS OPEN TO:



CLOSED TO:





- 1. Create high-quality, enjoyable, accessible bikepacking routes and route networks in geographic regions throughout North America.**
- 2. Foster strong connections between bikepackers and landscapes to promote landscape conservation and encourage responsible backcountry ethics.**
- 3. Advocate for the bikepacking community – access, public lands, conservation, & relationships**

COMING
IN 2019

WILD WEST ROUTE

Produced by



The Wild West Bikepacking Route links nearly 3,000 miles of dirt roads and 4x4 tracks to traverse the Intermountain West from Mexico to Canada, showcasing the expansive wild country that remains in the American West. The route offers riders opportunities for discovery, adventure, solitude, and growth, all while passing through dozens of national parks, forests, and rural communities. The full route guide and trip planning resources will be released in early 2019.

Route development
supported by







Cameron Area Trails Vision

