

**From:** [Jordan Watson](#)  
**To:** [Participate](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Inclusiveness at guy coles skatepark  
**Date:** Sunday, May 14, 2023 10:17:54 AM

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Hello, Jordan again here about the skatepark and action sports community including bmx riders. I just wanted to email again and express a few more things. I've had skateboarders call me names and scream at me now for even being near the skatepark. I've handled these situations calmly and collectively. No issues, I will not enter the skatepark as no bikes are allowed. However I do not have a safe space to practice my sport in this town. And no other current or prospective bmx riders do. The pump tracks are over run with family's on mountain bikes and are not built for the sport of bmx we do. It's a safety issue, and it's also very discouraging to bmx riders that are traveling to or live in Ketchum. Maybe we can allow bikes one day a week? Like tuesdays? Many skateparks do this to keep a harmony. I understand this isn't the most important issue to the town, but it's very important to me. I appreciate your time. Thank you

Jordan Watson

On Mon, May 1, 2023 at 1:39 PM Participate <[participate@ketchumidaho.org](mailto:participate@ketchumidaho.org)> wrote:

Hi Jordan – confirming receipt of your emails.

The clerk will ensure they're shared with Council.

Cheers,

Aly

**ALY SWINDLEY | CITY OF KETCHUM**

Management and Communications Analyst

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**From:** Jordan Watson <[prescribingmoments@gmail.com](mailto:prescribingmoments@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 1, 2023 1:13 PM  
**To:** Participate <[participate@ketchumidaho.org](mailto:participate@ketchumidaho.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: Inclusiveness at guy coles skatepark

Here is a pretty good article backing my concerns. Me and every skateboarder and scooterer I've been around have always had a mutual respect. No one bothers each other and we all have fun together. I would love to be apart of the action sports community at the skatepark, as a skateboarder myself also. Thanks for your time.

<https://www.bicycleretailer.com/studies-reports/2009/07/26/many-skateparks-dont-allow-bmx-use#.ZFAOymRMEIQ>

Jordan Watson

On Mon, May 1, 2023 at 2:00 AM Jordan Watson <[prescribingmoments@gmail.com](mailto:prescribingmoments@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hello,

I just wanted to send an email explaining some concerns. Is bmx allowed at the skatepark? I see that scooters are allowed at certain times. Is it possible to allow bmx at those times? Or other times? Bmx is a huge action sport and I don't believe discrimination against bikers is fair to us that ride bikes in the wood river valley if it is not allowed there. I am a taxpayer here in the valley, and Ketchum and believe that if my money is going to the town then I should be allowed to use its facilities. I understand the liabilities with bikes, as there are many families that may wander in with children. However maybe only BMX bikes specifically can be allowed. Growing up me and many other bmx cyclists helped the community raise money to create a skatepark as a safe space for skateboarders, cyclists, scooters etc to ride at. And I would love to have that safe space here where my residence is. If they are not allowed there, can you explain why that would be? Is there anything I can do to help bmxers to have a safe space to ride? I know there are pump tracks and trails, however bmx freestyle is much different from mountain biking and racing. If there is anything I can do to have us be allowed to ride bmx at the park, please let me know. I appreciate your time, and look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you guys for all you do for the community,

Jordan Watson

**From:** [dayan chemello](#)  
**To:** [Participate](#)  
**Subject:** I want to be free to ride my bike  
**Date:** Sunday, May 14, 2023 11:14:42 AM

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Hello, you guys should allow people ride their bikes at the skatepark, we should feel included to do this sports. I would love that, please.

Thanks

**From:** [Tyler Watson](#)  
**To:** [Participate](#)  
**Subject:** Skatepark  
**Date:** Sunday, May 14, 2023 12:20:30 PM

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Why are bicycles not allowed at the park? They present no more danger than skatepark to the person or the park. The reason is unclear to me, so please change this rule so bicycle riders have a place to ride.

**From:** [JANET KELLAM](#)  
**To:** [Participate](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment 5-15-2023 Avalanche Hazard Management  
**Date:** Monday, May 15, 2023 8:07:53 AM  
**Attachments:** [Public Comment- Avalanche Report Ketchum City Council 5-15-2023.pdf](#)

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I am submitting public comment for this afternoon's Ketchum City Council meeting, regarding the Avalanche Hazard management discussion.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate and for all of your work and dedication to our community.

Sincerely,

Janet Kellam

PO Box 3572 Ketchum, ID 83340

208-721-1045

Participate@KetchumIdaho.org  
City Council meeting, City of Ketchum, Idaho  
May 15, 2023

Public Comment re:  
Avalanche Hazard Management and Rescue Preparedness Blaine County, Idaho

I'd like to thank Manuel Genswein, The Sawtooth Avalanche Center and all of the agencies, public servants and private individuals in the Wood River Valley who supported avalanche awareness, preparedness and response throughout this past winter.

My focus is regarding "The Urban Avalanche Interface". This past winter's weather resulted in several extensive, destructive avalanche cycles and impacted our entire region from Bellevue & Hailey to Ketchum & Sun Valley, up Highway 75 & over Galena Summit and also included many of our side canyons that have roads and residential development.

Urban avalanche cycles do not necessarily take place here every winter, but we have experienced a number of them over the years. We have been very fortunate to not have loss of life or serious injury unlike neighboring Camas County in January 2004. Two family members were killed in their bed and five others narrowly escaped the same death when the slope above their home avalanched during a storm and destroyed the structure. In Blaine County in recent history, we have seen three homes obliterated and at least several others severely, structurally damaged. There have been a number of "near misses" involving people.

Given our population growth, our building demands, our sloping terrain and our more extreme weather, it is no longer a "once in awhile" problem. We can expect to see more urban avalanche events and more people of all types at risk in coming years.

Just as our communities have come together to manage flooding and wildfire concerns, our cities, agencies and services need to be able to coordinate and communicate effectively leading up to and during avalanche conditions that impact buildings, roads and the general public.

County and City Hazard mapping for planning and zoning as well as for emergency management provides a common language to identify areas of hazard and equally important, areas of safety. I agree with Manuel Genswein's concept to utilize leading US avalanche mapping/modeling professionals with the specific intent to train and develop our own local expertise. Given the expanse of our avalanche problems, we need professionals living and working here who know the area very well, closely follow each winter's patterns, know the community and can help to build our avalanche programs for years to come.

Respectfully,  
Janet Kellam  
110 Board Loop  
Ketchum, ID

Retired Avalanche Professional  
Former Director & Forecaster- Sawtooth National Forest Avalanche Center  
Former Director and Instructor- National Avalanche School  
Past President- American Avalanche Association