

# **Mountain Bike Trail Building, “Dirty” Work, and a New Terrestrial Politics**

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## ***ABSTRACT ORIGINAL***

Dirt is evoked to signify many important facets of mountain bike culture, including its emergence, history, and everyday forms of practice and affect. These significations are also drawn on to frame the sport's (sub)cultural and counterideological affiliations. In this article we examine how both the practice of mountain biking and, specifically, mountain bike trail building, raises questions over the object and latent function of dirt, hinting at the way that abjection can, under certain circumstances, be a source of intrigue and pleasure. In doing so, we suggest a resymbolization of our relationship with dirt via a consideration of the terrestrial. © 2019, © 2019 Taylor & Francis Group, LLC.