Truckee Bike Park a passion project for founding couple

By Ben Egel, Sacramento Bee

The Truckee Bike Park was born out of grief.

Co-founder Cortney Knudson was deep in mourning after her father passed away, and to cheer her up, her boyfriend, Brooks McMullin, suggested a vacation away from their North Lake Tahoe routine. They found themselves in Hailey, Idaho in 2011, visiting friends and riding dirt bikes over pump tracks — circuits full of berms to roll up and down.

It was a welcome reprieve, Knudson said, and an organized type of rural biking that didn't exist in Lake Tahoe.

On the nine-hour drive home, Knudson and McMullin kept having the same thought: "Why couldn't we do this back home?" About a week later, they founded a nonprofit called Biking for a Better World, designed to raise funds and awareness for cycling in Northern California.

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