

## **Gib Donovan**

I was a rider in the first Hoka Hey. I was unable to finish and that will haunt me the rest of my life. It was the hardest decision I have ever made to stop and return home. It was also the most amazing ride I have ever been on. I guess what I'm trying to say is that even if you don't cross the finish line it will be the most unbelievable ride you are ever associated with. I made new friends. I saw amazing things – not all which was the scenery. I saw people react in caring and helpful ways to fellow riders. I went to the home of a man who, for the most part, distrusted the white man and was fed and offered shelter. I don't have words to describe how it is to ride the Hoka Hey other than it is life changing. It changed my life. There are not too many days that go by that I don't think about my time on the Hoka Hey. There are not too many days that go by that I don't think of riding the Hoka Hey again.

~ Gib Donovan, Reno, NV