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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom it May Concern;

I am writing this letter regarding the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison Forest Plan Revision #51806 in support of Plan A & C with strong opposition to plan D.

As a backcountry user via sled, splitboard, Nordic skiing, running, hiking, and mountain biking there is an advantage to all user groups utilizing public lands and we should not be discriminating against just one type. I believe closing vast swaths of public lands to one specific user group (over-snow vehicles) has many unintended negative consequences. Motorized users will be packed into dense areas where snowmobiling is still allowed. This will create dangerous conditions for all users-snowmobile or otherwise.

Additionally, by a continued allowance in these areas, winter backcountry users are able to get to a deeper and safer snowpack. The reason we live here is to enjoy the vast wilderness and much of the enjoyment comes because of the wonderful access we have to these beautiful spaces and places. Because of this, we don't have overcrowding like Summit County does at their backcountry trailheads who have shut down the majority of over-snow vehicles in winter. This has created dangerous conditions, overcrowding at trailheads, and overuse of spaces-impacting wilderness access points in negative ways because users are not able to spread out, and thought was not given to how trailheads would overcome overcrowding.

I am asking you to please consider options A & C so we can continue recreating safely in areas we love so much.

Thank you for your time and understanding.