8/10/15

OSV Comments:

The current OSV agreement has been in place since 1997 and is already overly restrictive and very limited in the areas that are available to the OSV. The open areas above 7000’ on Hwy 4 and Hwy 108 are mostly limited to riding on top of the paved highways and a very small amount of land on either side that is virtually unusable, while there are tens of thousands of acres of wilderness and proposed wilderness listed as not OSV permitted. All of the open area below 7000’ is unusable most of the time. The current plan favors one group over another as there is no legitimate reason for not allowing a snowmobile on the snow. I have asked the current rangers that patrol in our areas at the OSV meetings if they thought there was any damage to the forest or environment and there answer was always NO.

I have been to several meetings and asked if the suing party or group was present and the answer was always no they are not from here!

I object to a group of environmentalist suing the US Forest service when they do not live here and they do not support the community. We are residents of Bear Valley and Alpine county tax payers, we ski, hike, fish, kayak and ride snowmobiles **and always tread lightly in the forest**. I have been coming up to the Stanislaus national forest since 1975 total of 40 years now.

I make a motion to re-open the proposed wilderness areas for OSV use in Lou of further restrictions.

Please represent us equally and fairly as a group since the Forest is for ALL to use, not just for one group.

Best Regards,

Scott