

December 14, 2018

Randy Moore, Regional Forester  
USDA Forest Service  
Attn: Eldorado National Forest Over-Snow Vehicle Use Designation Project  
1323 Club Drive  
Vallejo, CA 94592

Submitted via email to [objections-pacificsouthwest-regional-office@fs.fed.us](mailto:objections-pacificsouthwest-regional-office@fs.fed.us)

Re: Eldorado National Forest Over-Snow Vehicle Use Designation Project

Dear Regional Forester Moore,

I am an avid backcountry and Nordic skier, climber and hiker and have enjoyed outdoor recreation in the Eldorado National Forest for over a dozen years. Winter is a particularly special time and the backcountry skiing accessible in the Eldorado National Forest, especially out of the Carson Pass area, is truly outstanding. One of my greatest joys is experiencing the natural beauty, peace and solitude of these winter landscapes via human powered recreation.

I support a responsible policy governing over-snow vehicle use and I greatly appreciate the Forest Service's efforts to develop this policy. This policy should seek to balance the recreation objectives of backcountry skiers and snowmobilers. I believe the Forest Service's current proposal ('Alternative 5') is a good step in this direction. However, it has one significant shortcoming that I believe should be remedied. I previously commented on the Draft EIS on 7/29/2018 and am now submitting a formal objection related to this shortcoming.

Formal notice of the objection period was published in the newspaper of record on November 5, 2018 stating that the 45-day objection period ends on December 17, making this objection timely. The Responsible Official is Laurence Crabtree, Forest Supervisor. The name of the proposed project is the Eldorado National Forest Over-Snow Vehicle Use Designation. The implementation area is the Eldorado National Forest.

## **OBJECTION**

- 1. Multiple areas accessible from the Carson Pass corridor have been managed as non-motorized for a long time. Draft plan Alternative 5 fails to continue this protection for the area north of Carson Pass.***

I raised this issue in my comments to the Draft EIS, submitted on 7/29/2018. The area north of Carson Pass is a prime backcountry ski zone, Nordic ski zone and snowshoeing zone. On any given winter day, the Meiss and Carson SNO-PARKs are packed with people who are enjoying quiet outdoor recreation. This area has been managed as non-motorized for a long time based on a prior Forest Order prohibiting motorized use in multiple areas accessible via the Carson Pass corridor. Unfortunately, Alternative 5 fails to maintain this longstanding protection as the draft plan designates this area for motorized use. This would be a dramatic change in character for the area and would highly degrade the quiet winter recreation experience it now provides for so many people. It would also result in significant conflict between non-motorized and motorized users.

**Remedy:** *I respectfully request that the Forest Service amend Alternative 5 of the draft plan to designate the area north of Carson Pass, as well as all other traditionally non-motorized areas accessed from the Carson Pass corridor, as non-motorized. This will maintain the longstanding quiet character of this special area and preserve it for ongoing human-powered recreation. It will also prevent what would otherwise likely be significant conflict between motorized and non-motorized users. Management for the Carson Pass area in Alternative 3 addresses my proposed remedy as it does not designate OSV use in the traditional non-motorized areas north of Carson Pass.*

## CONCLUSION

Thank you very much for your consideration of the above objection. Please inform me in writing of any responses to these objections or of any further opportunities to comment on decisions.

Sincerely,



Tim Maly

[REDACTED]

Menlo Park, CA 94015

[REDACTED]

**From:** [Brown, Nevia -FS](#)  
**To:** [Marsolais, Jennifer - FS](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Eldorado National Forest Over-Snow Vehicle Use Designation Project  
**Date:** Friday, December 14, 2018 2:31:15 PM  
**Attachments:** [Eldorado NF OSV Use Project Objection \(12-14-2018\).pdf](#)

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Beep Beep coming through.

**From:** Tim Maly [mailto:[timmaly@gmail.com](mailto:timmaly@gmail.com)]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 14, 2018 11:53 AM  
**To:** FS-objections-pacificsouthwest-regional-office <[objections-pacificsouthwest-regional-office@fs.fed.us](mailto:objections-pacificsouthwest-regional-office@fs.fed.us)>  
**Subject:** Eldorado National Forest Over-Snow Vehicle Use Designation Project

Dear Regional Forester Moore,

Attached in PDF format please find my letter of objection to the current draft plan for the Eldorado National Forest OSV Use Designation Project.

Thank you,  
Tim Maly