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20 JULY 2016

To: Mr. Rob Robertson

Re: Current proposal WR-26, and Bear  
Creek Road (FS-501)

Dear Mr. Robertson

I am writing this letter in regards  
to the current proposal WR-26 and more  
specifically Bear Creek Road (FS-501)!

I appreciate this "open comment period"  
and value the consideration you are  
giving to forest travel management.

In regards to the proposed action to  
limit access on Bear Creek Road to  
ATVs (< 65" wide), I urge you and your  
colleagues to give consideration to a  
prescribed period (2-3 years) where limited  
seasonal access be put in place (particularly  
wet season - early spring).

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After establishing a period of study, with attention to restricted traffic in the wet season, a mindful decision with data in hand could be made with attention to impact upon the riparian & wetland regions under consideration.

I believe that such a staged thoughtful analysis of data collected from the field would serve all concerned.

Frankly, allowing only ATVs (<65" wide) will likely promote larger number of vehicles on the road and without seasonal restrictions may exacerbate road rutting & local environmental damage.

Finally,

For those individuals that derive their income from recreational outfitting, such as Bear Basin Adventures, a road restriction action now without thoughtful study would impose a significant financial hardship!

(3)

I ask that you give thoughtful consideration to a staged study of the seasonal impact of road closure (Bear Creek Road FS-50) prior to a final action that would restrict access to vehicles  $< 65'$  wide

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.



Dr. Gary L. Hedlund

