Linda Jackson, Supervisor

Payette National Forest

500 n. Mission Street, Building 2

McCall, Idaho 83638

Dear Supervisor Jackson

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Stibnite project. This is a very important project for the community and country. The fact that we finally have a plan in place to clean up an area left behind by the federal government without using tax dollars stands alone as an incredible achievement. Replacing OSV travel from Warm Lake to Landmark with Cabin Creek to Landmark as a groomed trail is the best possible solution to provide access to a historical snowmobile area and support Deadwood and the City of Stanley. I am completely aware of the no net gain policy (Poor Science at best) and this does not add miles to the current plan. The Burntlog plan is the only acceptable plan. I also appreciate Perpetua’s goal of helping us find access to Wapiti this spring.

I did notice the description of OSV access routes in Chapter 4.19, page 4-535 isn’t entirely accurate. Below are a few clarifications and requests for inclusion in the FEIS:

* There is no discussion of the Forest Plan “no net gain” concept as it relates to OSV access. In short, an increase in OSV access must be offset by removing OSV access elsewhere. For example, the increased OSV mileage along the Cabin Cr Rd/Johnson Cr Rd OSV route would require removal of approximately 2.5 miles of existing OSV access from grooming elsewhere, like the Burnt Log Road.
* Valley County does not groom Horn Creek Road, only grooms approximately 4 miles of Burnt Log Road not 9.8 miles, and a few hundred feet of Sand Creek Road.
* Valley County does intend to continue grooming Landmark-Stanley Road and Sulphur Creek Road if the 2021 MMP is the chosen alternative.
* Perpetua included an OSV trail along the south side of Warm Lake Road connecting Johnson Creek Road to Landmark-Stanley Road which is not described in this section. They proposed this connector to maintain access to the Landmark-Stanley Road.
* Plowing of Burntlog Road does not cut off access to trails east and south of Landmark. It’s not ideal but snowmobile users can access these trails as long as there is a snow floor on the Burntlog Route and pull outs for snowmobilers to cool their sleds (if necessary).

The financial health of the community will be affected in a very positive way. Competition for Quality labor will drive up wages and companies that have profited off notoriously low wages will be forced to offer their employees a livable wage.

This is my opinion and not that of my employer or any other group

Larry Laxson

Parks and Rec Director

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