

Kennedy, Kathy - FS, WY

From: FS-Comments-Bighorn
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 7:58 AM
To: Kennedy, Kathy - FS, WY
Subject: FW: [External Email]Pole Creek Project

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Caring for the land and serving people

From: Wendy Ongaro [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2023 7:49 AM
To: FS-Comments-Bighorn <comments-bighorn@usda.gov>
Subject: [External Email]Pole Creek Project

[External Email]

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Good Morning,

I am commenting to the proposed plan to log the Pole Creek Nordic and Powder Pass 449 area.

I am requesting that this area be removed from the plan proposal. This area is a significant source of recreation for me and my family throughout the year. It is one of the few areas on highway 16 that has good parking and is easily accessible for recreational use without having to access forest service roads. This cuts down on wear and tear for our vehicles and our horse trailer, as we often horseback ride these trails during the summer.

The trails are already well established for nordic skiing in the winter and hiking during the summer. My 80 year old mother in law loves hiking them, and we visit often during the summer. She finds the roads easy to navigate for hiking in her older condition. She also does not have the anxiety she experiences in other locations and they do not get the

volume of motorized vehicles as other Forest Service Roads (usually just the campers at the Pole Creek cabin).

I grew up in Seattle and recreated on Weyerhaeuser lands, so I am familiar with the damage heavy logging equipment does to roads and trails. I am afraid that if you allow logging in this area, the quality of ski trails and summer hiking will never recover.

I appreciate your time and the opportunity to comment.

-Wendy Ongaro