

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/15/2018 7:00:00 AM

First name: Colleen

Last name: Platt

Organization: MyValleySprings.com

Title: Secretary

Comments: Comments on Stanislaus OSV Designation

September 15, 2018

To: USFS re. Stanislaus National Forest,

We do not support the proposed Alternative 5 project, which includes two existing wild roadless areas-Pacific Valley and Eagle-in the proposal to allow future snowmobile use. These areas currently do not allow any motorized usage. We have been hiking in the Pacific Valley. Attached are a few photos from a hiking trip there last year, September 2017.

Please protect these two remaining wild places that don't currently allow motorized vehicle use. We do not support allowing snowmobiles in the Pacific Valley or Eagle roadless area.

The 10,300-acre Pacific Valley roadless area is a potential addition to the Carson-Iceberg Wilderness in the Sierra Nevada. Canyon slopes and bottoms are heavily forested, streams meander through wildflower spangled meadows, and the valley is rimmed by high mountain peaks. Pacific Valley provides important summer range for mule deer, as well as old growth forest habitat for the Pacific fisher and pine marten, plus habitat of value for the Sierra Nevada red fox. Pacific Valley Creek, a tributary of the Mokelumne River, supports a population of rare Lahontan cutthroat trout.

Wildlife would be stressed and habitat would be disturbed by allowing snowmobiles into this roadless area. Quiet recreational uses like hiking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing would also be disturbed by snowmobile usage.

Please do not allow snowmobiles in the Pacific Valley or Eagle roadless areas.

Respectfully,

Colleen Platt, Secretary

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ATTACHMENTS: Photos