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Organization:

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Comments: Comments on Stanislaus OSV Designation

Attached are my comments on the Stanislaus National Forest Snowmobile Plan. I would appreciate an e-mail confirmation that you received my comments in a "legable" form. Thank you.

Ken Condeva

It has come to my attention that the Stanislaus National Forest Service is considering modifying existing policy regarding management of Over-Snow Vehicle use within the National Forest.

I am a cross-country skier who has enjoyed skiing in many of California's national forests for over 30 years. As a person who enjoys the outdoors, I am offended by the presence of snowmobiles for several reasons, including potential safety hazards, excessive noise, and air pollution. Nothing can destroy a winter wilderness experience like the presence of these machines ripping up and down the mountainside, imprinting the pristine backcountry snowpack with their track marks, punctuating the silence of the backcountry with their loud, obnoxious roar, and fouling the pure alpine air with their noxious smell!

It is important that the needs of "non-motorized" recreational users be a priority in winter recreational use of our national forests. I encourage you to develop a recreation plan that is equitable and supportive of the desire of most users to enjoy a safe, noise free, pollution free outdoor experience, I urge you do strengthen (not weaken) the Stanislaus National Forest Service rules to give a higher priority to "non-motorized" recreational users and those who desire the environmental protection of our National Forest lands.

Thus, I urge you to adopt "Alternative 3", the option that minimizes conflict between snowmobilers and "non-motorized" users. Specifically, do not allow snowmobiling in the area of Mattley Ridge, Big Meadow, and Lake Alpine. Thank you.