

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/8/2018 7:00:00 AM

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Organization: Snowlands Network

Title: Director

Comments: Comments on Stanislaus OSV Designation

Dear Project Team,

I have been cross country and backcountry skiing for over 40 years, and I object to the Preferred alternative #5 you are proposing for Subpart C, Winter Travel Management. The following areas are protected, and should be designated non-motorized in winter because they are accessible, have varied terrain, and meet the needs of the human-powered winter recreation community. Those areas are:

- * Mattley Ridge

- * Cabbage Patch to Black Spring

- * Osborne Hill and Lake Alpine

- * Big Meadow

- * Herring Creek Road

Since the FS has not followed protocol to protect these areas, and all near-natural areas in the Stanislaus NF, is no reason to now allow motorized use.

1. Please designate the following as non-motorized in winter:

- * Mattley Ridge

- * Cabbage Patch to Black Spring

- * Osborne Hill and Lake Alpine

- * Big Meadow

- * Herring Creek Road

2. Please designate all near-natural areas as non-motorized in winter

3. Adopt Alternative 3

4. Minimize conflicts between user groups by designating these area noted above, and all Near Natural areas as non-motorized in winter.

5. Do not reduce the current size of the Near Natural areas because these are set aside for the public to enjoy in an undisturbed setting.

6. Do not reward the behavior of users that break the law and break the rules. This means, do not reward snowmobile trespassers by allowing uses in areas that are Near Natural.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gail Ferrell

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