

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/27/2019 8:00:00 AM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I hope that I have just uploaded a file with my comments on the Twisp Restoration Project. This is important to me so I will attempt to check to be sure you have my information and comments.

Jane

From attachment Twisp Restoration Project.docx:

TWISP RESTORATION PROJECT

COMMENT BY Jane Byram

I have lived at 814 Twisp River Road full time since 1998, part time since 1983. I have ridden horses all over this area of the Twisp River Drainage long before 1983. I attended the November 21st meeting in Twisp to learn as much about this project as possible. On November 22, Mary McHugh and I drove all the roads in Thompson Ridge and Little Bridge creek area to identify numbered roads with the names that we have called them for 40 years.

I will start with Thompson Ridge Roads and trails:

For 40 years I have ridden during the summers and hiked and snowshoed during the winter road 4410015 to the end and then traveled cross-country up and over to come out on the 4415000 road. I have used the 4400039 road as well as this un-numbered road ties into the area. I am assuming this is the 4400039 road. It is what we call Sand Creek as there is no numbered sign stating its number off the 4415000. Another regularly used trail/road is 4410020. This is the road to the gravel pit which is also being used as a garbage pit by the Forest Service. There are numerous dump truck loads of used asphalt dumped up there. Mary and I discovered this about 6 years ago. Now old gates have been added to the mess.

The main Thompson Ridge Road (4410000)road gives us access to 4410040 trail which leads us to Meadowlark junction. I call this a trail because it is an old logging road that has not been maintained for 40 years. We ride this trail/road in the summer. 4410000 gives us access to Meyers Creek area.

4410015 and 4410020 (beyond the gravel pit) have been decommissioned and ripped which makes stock travel difficult due to the sharp rocks. I have put pads on the front feet of my horses to help them walk on these trails. Tank trapping roads are OK with me but ripping them makes them impassible and dangerous for stock travel.

Conclusion: Please keep these roads/trails open to recreational stock travel. They have a historic history of recreational use in the lower Little Bridge Creek and lower Thompson Ridge areas.

Little Bridge Creek Area:

This area is my back yard and I have been riding it for almost 50 years. I have already mentioned Thompson Ridge Roads I ride that tie into the Little Bridge Creek roads that are no longer open and have turned into trails. The following numbered roads/trails I have ridden for 40 years and where legal, have snowmobiled in the winter. Please do NOT rip any of these!

4415030 which leads to a number of old logging roads and eventually over to 4400040 and the 4400030 road. This also lets us access the head gate to the Hebert irrigation ditch and a camping area. Cow Creek washed out in a rain storm above 4415000 several years back in 2016 and also cut off the access to the head gate.

4415040 (Cow Creek) leads up to the Little Bridge Creek side of Thompson Ridge Creek and a number of off roads. We make a loop of this and come out 4415060, which is gated year around called Deer Creek.

4415100 is the road up to what we call the Saddle. This road is water barred, which has limited our access to miles of trails up to Midnight Mountain. Because of the deep short trenches in the road, I can't pull my horse trailer up that road to the Saddle. If I want to access the many miles of trails to Midnight Mountain and other places, I have to ride from the bottom on the 4415000 road. Not right nor fair of the FS to do that years ago without our input.

From 4415100 I can ride all of the following: 4415012 to the old horse camp; 4415091 which is tank trapped and leads back to 4415030; 4415115 which is also tank trapped and famous for the water source for the illegal pot grow raided by several agencies back 10 years or so. The agencies were tipped off by yours truly; 4415120 which goes left from the Saddle but the trail winds around and comes out either at the 4400040 system or the 4400030 road; no number on the middle gated road/trail but it also comes out at the 4400040 system; The metal locked gated road has no number but that is the main trail/road to the back side of Midnight Mountain. From there I can find my way back to Abernathy Ridge and to War Creek Camp Ground, and all the trails in Lime Creek trails/roads 440110. The only maintenance these roads have had is last year after the Crescent fire and then only the main Little Bridge Creek road 441500.