Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/15/2023 6:00:00 AM
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: SUBJECT: Comments on the Kootenai National Forest (KNF), Travel Plan Proposals for 2023.

COMMENTS:

1. For ANY and ALL proposed restrictions to forest access, please provide ALL biological data that supports the proposed restriction. I would like to see the specific, documented science for the KNF. This would include any proposals to restrict forest access to protect Grizzly Bear denning habitat, or ANY proposed restrictions to [ldquo]protect[rdquo] or [ldquo]Preserve[rdquo] the habitat of any other species.

1. In the event there are proposals to further restrict forest access within this Travel Plan I would at this time request under the Freedom of Information Act, all of the biological information being used to justify those proposals for further access restrictions.

1. With respect to the Williams Creek area on the Rexford Ranger District, and other areas within the KNF, there were insufficient alternatives provided for the land management classification of those lands in the KNF Forest Plan. The only alternative provided for these lands was a 5A [ndash] (Backcountry non-motorized land management classification), which constitutes site specific travel management being done ILLEGALLY, in the forest planning process. All areas classified as 5A management within the current KNF Forest Plan need to be re-visited, and alternatives provided for motorized use in those areas.

1. There should be no further restriction of access of any kind on the Kootenai National Forest (KNF), that is not fully supported by current biological data and science that is applicable to KNF lands where access restrictions are proposed. The current status of the Grizzly Bear (nearing de-listing from the ESA), Wolverine (not listed within the ESA), or Lynx (Listed as Threatened under the ESA), do not provide any biological justification for further restriction of public access to KNF lands, be it motorized or non-motorized access.