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First name: Todd Last name: Butts Organization:

Title:

Comments: TO: Kootenai National Forest Attn: Travel Plan Scoping Comments 31374 U.S. Highway 2 Libby, MT 59923-3022FROM: Todd Butts P.O. Box 84 Trego MT 59934SUBJECT: Comments on the Kootenai National Forest (KNF), Travel Plan Proposalsfor 2023.COMMENTS:1. For ANY and ALL proposed restrictions to forest access, please provide ALLbiological 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 proposedrestrictions to "protect" or "Preserve" the habitat of any other species.2. In the event there are proposals to further restrict forest access within this TravelPlan I would at this time request under the Freedom ofInformation Act, all of thebiological information being used to justify those proposals for further accessrestrictions.3. With respect to the Williams Creek area on the Rexford Ranger District, and otherareas within the KNF, there were insufficient alternatives provided for the landmanagement classification of those lands in the KNF Forest Plan. The onlyalternative provided for these lands was a 5A -(Backcountry non-motorized landmanagement classification), which constitutes site specific travel managementbeing done ILLEGALLY, in the forest planning process. All areas classified as5A management within the current KNF Forest Plan need to be re-visited, andalternatives provided for motorized use in those areas.4. There should be no further restriction of access of any kind on the KootenaiNational 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 publicaccess to KNF lands, be it motorized or non-motorized access. Respectfully, Todd **Butts**