Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/18/2023 8:36:50 PM
First name: Lynsay
Last name: Maykuth
Organization: Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks
Title:
Comments: Dear Chad Benson,
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Kootenai National Forest Over-snow Motorized Travel Plan. Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks believes minimizing disturbance to ungulates on big game winter range (BGWR) is important to their long-term survival. The forest plan recognizes this importance as well, "Forest Plan direction is generally to avoid or minimize disturbance to native ungulates on winter range between December 1 and April 1 except on roads shown on the motor vehicle use map as open (FW-GDL-WL-08. Big Game, page 31)." After reviewing the Draft Minimization Screening document, we would like to have more in-depth discussion with the USFS to better understand the determination of some areas designated as having no BGWR, areas of BGWR with little or no mitigating actions, and areas listed as BGWR allowing use through May 31st.
Thank you again for the opportunity to comment, and we look forward to working directly with you to minimize impacts to BGWR while achieving the USFS mandate of multiple use.
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Neil Anderson, Regional Wildlife Manager at (406) 751-4585 or NAnderson@mt.gov.

Sincerely,

Lee Anderson
Region 1 Supervisor
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks