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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please! If you want cities to be dense....Forest Plan should increased trail access & wilderness

Heidi Watters

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June 26, 2016

Dear Colville National Forest Plan Revision Team,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the revised Colville National Forest Plan.

As an URBAN hiker, I believe this plan will be very important to creating a sustainable future for outdoor recreation in Northeastern Washington.

I sacrifice green-space in my neighborhood & certainly expect that in return there will be wild lands to visit (& preserve ecology). My family has traveled from the dense Seattle Metro area many times (each summer!) to enjoy wild lands out side the urban growth boundary. If we are to engage (as we do via work parties) in local stewardship of native ecology, we expect government to protect it.

In general, I support the Forest's Preferred Alternative (Alternative P) because of its goals to protect the area's ecological health while balancing recreation needs. However, I believe it falls short in providing enough recreation resources.

Hikers like me would like to see more areas that include nonmotorized trails and that these trails, as well as the roads that lead to them, are well maintained.

I would like the final plan to include increased recommendations for wilderness designation. The areas that should be considered for wilderness protection include Bald Snow, Abercrombie Hooknose and Quartzrite Inventoried Roadless Areas as well as Thirteenmile & Cougar Mountain, Grassy Top, and Hall Mountain.

Sincerely,

Heidi Watters